FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

28 NOVEMBER 1986

Syria

In response to the FRG's expulsion of four Syrian diplomats, Syria recalled its ambassador in Bonn and expelled three FRG diplomats, Damascus radio reported 28 November. The radio noted that the Foreign Ministry expressed "regret" over the FRG's "embroilment" in a "campaign of deception and accusations." The FRG announced diplomatic sanctions against Syria 27 November in reaction to the implication that "Syrian state authorities" abetted two Jordanians convicted of bombing a West Berlin German-Arab cultural center in March, according to DPA.

President Hafiz al-Asad received the Saudi interior minister 27 November for talks on the regional situation, SANA reported.

Libyan Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud chaired an "emergency meeting" of the General Secretariat of the Pan-Arab Command to discuss "imperialist aggression," Tripoli radio reported 27 November.

Iran

Three Italian diplomats were orderd to leave Tehran and all Italian cultural centers were closed 27 November, Tehran radio announced. Iran's ambassador to Rome was also recalled, IRNA reported. The action followed a "strong protest note" over a "sacrilegious" television program which mocked Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, according to IRNA.

In remarks cited by IRNA 26 November, Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi termed the British-Omani exercise in the Gulf a "direct provocation" and stressed that the waters of the Gulf and the Indian Ocean should be "cleansed of all foreign forces."

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi warplanes raided a jetty on western Khark Island and hit a "large maritime target" near the Iranian coast, a military spokesman told INA 27 November. Communiques broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio 26 and 27 November announced that Iraqi air strikes caused "important losses" on various military camps, including Marivan and Sar Dasht. According to IRNA, 10 civilians were killed and 11 wounded in Sar Dasht and 2 were killed in Marivan 27 November. The agency also noted that eight were killed in Saqqez 26 November.

An Iranian air strike caused "irreparable damage" to the Iraqi base at Irbil 26 November, according to a communique cited by IRNA. An Iraqi communique issued on the same day noted that 4 civilians were killed and 33 wounded when residential areas in Irbil were attacked.

In the wake of air raids on 25 November, an Iranian announcement broadcast by Tehran radio 27 November charged that Iraqi aircraft refuelled in a third country en route to attack Larak Island. Meanwhile, an Iraqi Foreign Ministry statement cited by INA 26 November condemned "Iranian aggression" against a UAE oil platform and expressed Iraq's solidarity with the UAE.

Saudi Arabia

An "official source" cited by SPA denied 27 November that Adnan Khashoggi acted on behalf of the Saudi Government in arranging funding for Iranian purchases of U.S. weapons.

Saudi King Fahd and Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman al-Khalifah presided over the official opening of the Bahraini-Saudi causeway 26 November, WAKH reported. During "comprehensive" talks in Al-Damman on the Saudi side, the two leaders condemned the 25 November attack on the UAE oil platform, Riyadh radio noted.

Israel

Arms Transfer to Iran — In remarks reported by *Ma'Ariv* 27 November, Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres denied that U.S.-Israeli friendship was endangered by the aftermath of the arms transfer to Iran and stated that Israel has no reason to "intervene" in the Iran-Iraq conflict. In a related development, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Ministers Peres and Yitzhaq Rabin established an investigative team to discover the source of the leak on Israel's role in the arms transfer, *Yedi'ot Aharonot* reported 27 November.

Peace Process — Prime Minister Peres stated that Israel agrees with Jordan, Egypt, and Morocco that there is "no alternative to direct negotiations," in a 27 November interview on Jerusalem television. Peres added that while the four countries agree on the nature of an international conference, differences over the rules are delaying the proposed talks.

Vanunu Case — Mordekhay Vanunu was indicted on four charges, including "collaborating with the enemy" and "aggravated espionage," IDF radio reported 28 November.

Lebanon

Israeli Raid — Israeli warplanes attacked 10 positions and fortifications in Sidon used by "Fatah and other terrorists," according to a military spokesman cited by Jerusalem radio 27 November. Some 25 people were killed or wounded in the raid, Beirut radio reported 28 November.

Camps War — "Violent clashes" continued to rage between Amal and Palestinian gunmen in Beirut's southern suburb and in the hotly contested Maghdushah area, Voice of Lebanon radio reported 28 November. According to Beirut radio 27 November, 40 Palestinians were killed in the Maghdushah fighting. Meanwhile, Radio Monte Carlo revealed 27 November that talks in Damascus have yielded a draft cease-fire agreement which is expected to be implememted in stages over the weekend.

PLO Affairs

Iraqi President Saddam Husayn received PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat 27 November, Voice of the Masses radio reported, adding that they discussed recent developments in Lebanon.

Libya

In a *Die Zeit* interview published 28 November, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi did not rule out the improvement of U.S.-Libyan relations after President Ronald Reagan completes his term of office. Al-Qadhdhafi reiterated his call for a benchmark price of $30 per barrel and declared that Libya is prepared to stop oil production until prices are "reasonably high." On the Iran-Iraq war, the Libyan leader told JANA 27 November that the killing of civilians by either side is a "cowardly act."

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Fatah's Khalaf Lambasts Iran on Arms Shipments

LD280936 Kuwait KUNA in English 0809 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Tunis, Nov 28 (KUNA) — A high-ranking Palestinian official urged here yesterday convocation of an Arab summit, or at least a Ministerial Council meeting, at the sidelines of the Kuwait-hosted Islamic summit conference next January.

Addressing diplomatic Arab missions accredited here, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf severely lashed out at the Iranian officials for their cooperation with the U.S. and Israel in securing arms shipments, adding that Iraq is defending the whole Arab nation, in addition to its people, in this war.

Over the situation in Lebanon, Khalaf, better known as Abu Iyad said the goal of this tragedy is to eliminate the Palestinian presence in Lebanon, and compares to Amal's massacres in the Palestinian camps and the Israeli carnage of Dayr Yasin in 1948, which were aimed at coercing the Palestinians to leave their homes.

Seeks 'Urgent' Arab Summit

NC271943 Paris AFP in English 1927 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Tunis, Nov 27 (AFP) — The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) on Thursday called for an "urgent" Arab summit to precede the Fifth Islamic Summit in Kuwait next January, citing what it termed a "conspiracy" against the Palestinian people and "complicity" in U.S. arms sales to Iran.

The purpose of such an extraordinary summit would be to deal with "deterioration" in common Arab action and to map out "a program of defense for the Arab cause in general," said Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, member of the Central Committee of the main PLO wing, Fatah.

The call came after Saudi Arabia, earlier Thursday, denied U.S. news reports that it was involved in the controversial U.S. arms sales to Iran, linked by articles in *The New York Times* and *Washington Post* to wealthy Saudi businessman Adnan Khashoggi.

"We have emphasized to Arab ambassadors that Iraq is not only defending its territory (in the Gulf war with Iran) but also the entire Arab cause," Mr. Khalaf said in a statement issued by PLO headquarters here following an informational meeting of Arab diplomatic mission heads.

That meeting was boycotted by Syria and Libya.

Without naming Saudi Arabia, Mr. Khalaf urged Arab world leaders to react to the "conspiracy" against the Palestinian people and to "denounce" complicity in the arms sales to Iran.

Washington and Jerusalem have acknowledged that Israel served as an intermediary in the arms shipments to Iran.

In the event that an Arab summit could not, for "different reasons" be held, said Mr. Khalaf, a meeting of Arab nation foreign ministers "should be held on these questions" before the Islamic Summit.

He told the AFP he had warned Thursday's meeting here of the threat of "massacres" in the Palestinian refugee camps south of Beirut following what he termed "intimidating actions" by "fascist groups" in Jerusalem.

He said he had further denounced "atrocities and massacres committed by Amal (Shi'ite militia in Lebanon) and their supporters to liquidate the Palestinians."

(In Baghdad, meanwhile, PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat accused Syria and Israel of providing heavy support for the Shi'ite militia battling Palestinian fighters around the Lebanon camps.

(?Syria has entered the battle against the camps on the Amal side, transporting Wednesday, by helicopter, a battalion of Lebanese troops, under its command in the Al-Biqa' (eastern Lebanon), to the fighting against the camps..." [quotation marks as received] Mr. 'Arafat said.)

Fatah's Al-Wazir Discusses PLO Unity With PFLP

JN280928 Kuwaiti AL-ANBA' in Arabic 26 Nov 86 p 25

[Salam Musafir dispatch from Moscow]

[Text] Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has said that his current short working visit to Moscow is part of the continuing contacts between the Palestinian revolution and the Soviet Union and is within the framework of strengthening relations.

In a statement to *Al-Anba'*, Abu Jihad said his talks in the Soviet Union are taking place at a time when the Palestinian revolution is facing a fierce onslaught both within the occupied territory and in Beirut and southern Lebanon; an onslaught represented by continued aggression in the form of a scorched-earth policy against Palestinian camps. Such an aggression has not stopped despite all the appeals and mediation efforts to halt it.

Abu Jihad, who heads a Fatah delegation that arrived in Moscow 2 days ago, said the current developments in the Palestinian arena are connected with continued efforts to strengthen the unity of Palestinian resistance factions. These efforts are the direct reason for his visit, he said, adding he will review the situation with Soviet officials to inform them of the latest developments.

Answering a question about the latest results of the meetings between the Palestinian factions, Abu Jihad said: We held a series of meetings with Soviet officials from the CPSU Central Committee, the solidarity committee [AAPSO], and the Foreign Ministry on the one hand, and with PFLP Secretary General George Habash in Prague and Moscow on the other.

He added the meetings have opened a way for continued contacts between Fatah and the PFLP, contacts that have been interrupted for more than 3 years. He declared: In our meetings, we concentrated on common denominators that could form a basis for cooperation under the present difficult circumstances.

Abu Jihad explained: Despite differences in political views and stands, we believe the meetings have brought about a new move toward joint cooperation based on the continued contacts between the Fatah Central Committee and the PFLP Political Bureau, contacts that will be resumed in the coming weeks; cooperation in the joint struggle in the occupied territory; continued cooperation and joint confrontation in resisting all attempts to liquidate the Palestinian rifle in Lebanon, regardless of the consequences; and joint action to strengthen Palestinian national unity within the framework of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Abu Jihad disclosed that they discussed convening the PNC to hold a comprehensive Palestinian dialogue. He said: Fatah made a proposal to the PFLP, which was taken by a member of the PFLP Political Bureau in Prague to Damascus, where most of the PFLP leaders are now.

Abu Jihad declared: We hope the proposal will be studied so a joint stand may be defined on a number of political issues. The most important of these issues is Fatah's readiness to declare its stand on political issues now under discussion with the PFLP, and declaring a stand on withdrawing from all political and organizational frameworks which lie outside the PLO.

In conclusion, Abu Jihad said: Fatah is very anxious to open the doors to all factions and is very anxious for all brothers in the Palestinian arena to move toward strengthening Palestinian unity. He expressed the hope that everyone would overcome secondary differences and shoulder their responsibilities under the present circumstances.

Al-Anba' has learned from Palestinian sources in Moscow that during the meetings held in Prague and Moscow, Fatah expressed a readiness to give up the Amman agreement completely in return for specific conditions which the PFLP must meet.

Following the intensive meetings which have been held and are being held among factions of the Palestinian revolution, there will be in the coming weeks a Palestinian agreement to convene the PNC. Both Algiers and Moscow played a part in bringing about these meetings following the Aogerian initiatve announced during Algerian President Bendjedid's visit to Moscow in mid-1986.

Abu Jihad left Moscow yesterday while George Habash stayed.

DFLP's Hawatimah Interviewed on PLO Unity

PM281049 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 21 Nov 86 p 8

[Unattributed report on *Al-Hawadith* interview with DFLP leader Nayif Hawatimah; date and place not given]

[Text] In his interview with *Al-Hawadith*, DFLP leader Nayif Hawatimah stressed that, from the political viewpoint, the DFLP is concerned with the unity of the PLO on a political basis hostile to the Camp David solutions; therefore, the front has rejected the Amman agreement between Yasir 'Arafat and Jordan's King Husayn.

Concerning the Palestinian camps in Lebanon and the continuous fighting to which they are exposed, Nayif Hawatimah said: "The realities on the ground confirm that none of the Palestinian leaders plans to return to south Lebanon or to Lebanon in general. Everyone knows that the Palestinian resistance does not intend to return to the situation which existed before 1982; but we are insisting on protecting the Palestinian camps, which have been exposed to continuous massacres since 1982. Therefore they have the right to be equipped with defensive weapons to prevent these massacres. These massacres were perpetrated by the hands of Israeli and Lebanese forces, and they are now being carried out by the Amal movement. Each has its own objectives, and ultimately the Palestinians are the victims. We cannot allow the Palestinian camps to remain a victim for any of those. What is now happening in Lebanon is attempts by Amal, or a move by Amal, to enter those camps in order to appropriate them and confiscate their defensive arms. This will lead to their removal and evacuation to the north. For example, in the recent clashes last October Amal bulldozered a small camp called Jall al-Bahr in Tyre zone; this has clearly revealed that the camps in Tyre zone will face the same fate. This will not be allowed to happen to the Palestinian camps because the Palestinians have been there since 1948 and there is no other place for them to go. This is, in short, what is now going on in south Lebanon. Anything other than this is mere demagoguery. Israel claims there are Palestinians who have returned to south Lebanon to justify its aggressive policy of occupation, or to justify its presence in the Lebanese territories still occupied by it, or to justify its rejection of the Security Council resolutions calling on Israel to withdraw from the occupied Lebanese territories."

Mr Hawatimah once again reaffirmed that "The situation will deteriorate if the PLO is disunited, and our enemies know that for certain. Therefore they have assigned all their resources to removing and evacuating the Palestinians and dividing them further. Because of all this we are insisting on the need for unity. All patriotic Arabs and Arab liberation forces are with us. We know the road of unity is the only way to defend our struggle and independence. For this reason, we try to prevent what our enemies want to do to us in order to divide us further. They want us to take the Camp David road. If there is genuine and comprehensive unity in the PLO, all our enemies' plans will never be realized."

'Arafat Affirms Readiness to Cooperate With Jordan

JN261827 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has affirmed the PLO's commitiment and readiness to cooperate with Jordanian officials within the framework of the Jordanian-Palestinian joint coordination committee to support the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories, in accordance with the resolutions of the Baghdad summit.

Brother Abu 'Ammar denied knowledge of any arrangements for a meeting with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and King Husayn of Jordan, in Cairo. He said he has an open invitation to visit Cairo anytime. He welcomed any Arab meeting anywhere that aims to further the Palestine question.

In a meeting with reporters in Riyadh the day before yesterday, Brother Abu 'Ammar explained that Egyptian President Husni Mubarak has responded to the PLO's appeal not to deal with the second part of the Camp David accords concerning the Palestinian people.

On the situation in Lebanon, Brother Abu 'Ammar explained that the current siege of the Palestinian camps is a plot aimed at establishing a Shi'ite canton and deporting 500,000 Palestinians within the scheme to divide Lebanon.

Sends 'Appeal' To Mubarak

NC271728 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1652 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 27 Nov (MENA) — MENA has learned from Palestinian sources in Cairo that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat today sent President Husni Mubarak the text of an appeal he had addressed to Arab leaders concerning the continuing massacres of Palestinians in Lebanon camps by the Amal Movement, with Syria's support.

The Palestinian leader made an urgent appeal to the Arab leaders yesterday on the situation in the camps and the conspiracy against the Palestinians, in which the Shi'ite Amal Movement, Syria, and Israel are involved.

Amal's Nabih Birri Comments on Damascus Talks

JN262110 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2000 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus carried within the "Panorama" program]

[Text] A short while ago [Lebanese] Minister Nabih Birri stated the following to our radio: During the past few days, we have held talks with our brothers in the Lebanese national forces and the plan under discussion — by this Birri means the plan for a political solution — is the following: First, a comprehensive cease-fire, coupled with the Palestinians' withdrawal to their camps. Second, the Amal movement's deployment in the areas where they were present prior to the incidents. Third, following the implementation of the first and second points and after the Amal movement's deployment, the Damascus agreement on the Al-Rashidiyah camp will be implemented. Fourth, the Damascus agreements on Beirut and the suburb will be implemented. Fifth, this will be followed by a national Lebanese-Palestinian meeting sponsored by Syria to agree on future Lebanese-Palestinian relations.

Birri added: All these points are not a topic of disagreement on anyone's part. The subject which is still under discussion and which has not been decided yet is how to lift the siege imposed on the entire Lebanese south and how to secure the national resistance road to and from the south. We proposed that the Lebanese national forces led by the Progressive Socialist Party under brother Walid Junblatt be in charge of the road, particularly in Sidon. This subject still needs discussion by the national forces and brother Mustafa Sa'd because it is unacceptable for the south to be amputated or rewarded for its struggle in this manner. We understand the concern for the Palestinian camps, which we also care about. We care about the Palestinian people as much as we care about ourselves. If ensuring security for the Palestinians is required — and this is their right — then it is also required to break the siege imposed on the south and ensure the safety of its inhabitants who have offered a lot for Lebanon and particularly the Palestinian people.

Birri added: I do not think the Arabs or the Lebanese have offered as much as the Lebanese people have offered. [as heard] We want to make it clear that we care very much for the Palestinians and their cause, but we are at the same time responsible for the liberation of the south.

Draft Agreement Reached

JN272051 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2010 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus carried within the "Panorama" program]

[Text] One of our sources has provided us with the draft agreement reached between the Amal movement and the Palestine National Salvation Front [PNSF] leadership under the auspices of the Lebanese nationalist forces and Syria. The agreement says:

1. A complete cease-fire will be observed as of 1500 tomorrow, Friday.

2. The Palestinian forces will start withdrawing from east of Sidon to their positions inside the camps beginning at 1800 tomorrow until 0200 the day after tomorrow.

3. The Amal forces will return to their positions east of Sidon at 0600 on Saturday.

4. The internal security forces will supervise the cease-fire and the withdrawals as well as the handover of positions to what they were at dawn last Monday.

5. Vehicles carrying food will move from Sidon to Al-Rashidiyah camp at 0600 On Saturday.

6. Vehicles carrying food as well as ambulances will enter Al-Rashidiyah at 0800, that is, 2 hours after the Amal forces have returned to their positions.

7. The joint Lebanese and nationalist forces under Walid Junblatt will protect the coastal road from Beirut to the south, ensuring free passage through Sidon.

8. The issue of Burj al-Barajinah and Shatila will be dealt with on Sunday and the siege of Al-Rashidiyah will be lifted the same day in accordance with the Damascus agreements.

9. The central nationalist meeting will take place in Damascus on Monday to discuss the Lebanese-Palestinian relations of nationalist struggle.

Tonight [Lebanesee Ba'th Party leader] 'Asim Qansuh, [Lebanese Communist Party leader]George Hawi, and [Syrian Social Nationalist Party leader] 'Isam al-Mahayri left for a meeting with Walid Junblatt and [Nasirite Grouping Secretary General] Mustafa Sa'd to inform them of this agreement and obtain their approval.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT Criticizes U.S.-Iran Contacts

PM271633 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 22 Nov 86 p 9

[Ahmad Baha' al-Din article: "Reagan's Latest Scandal"]

[Text] The exposure of U.S.-Israeli involvement with Iran carries many many serious implications. It is a scandal which speaks for itself, with no need for others to talk about it.

What do we see?

We see U.S. President Reagan, who does not stop urging that terrorism be combated — to the point of bombing Libya — himself getting involved in continuous bargaining with Iran so that the Hizballah Party in Lebanon might release the U.S. hostages to win him some votes in the midterm elections — which he lost anyway.

Anyone who does not think much of this interpretation does not know that the United States, with its might and distant as it is from the world, is like the Rome of old when it was the only power. Winning votes at home is the most important consideration of its leaders — and let other people here and there go to hell. Let wars continue here and there since everything is happening faraway from the American "citadel", whose rulers' main concern is to win the votes of its people, who know very little about the outside world, very little that matters to them unless ittouches their skin. Exchanging five American hostages for shipments of arms that would kill hundreds or thousands of people is worth the risk.

We see increasing in-depth cooperation between the United States and Israel. Israel is the absolute ally of the United States. In this particular case, this top secret and most crucial case for the U.S. President, Israel, as the executive partner, knew what was going on while Reagan's secretary of state, Shultz, did not. In other words, there was a secret which Reagan and Peres discussed in their meetings and which George Shultz had no right to know. Is it conceivable, therefore, that Reagan would, in his political decisions, give preference to something not acceptable to Peres or Shamir?

We see that big-power politics have their own criteria. That was true in the past and it will always be true. Any other naive view of this matter should be dismissed. For example, Britain expressed support for the Arab revolution during World War I but had already signed the fruit over to imperialism in the Sykes-Picot agreement. Now, the United States declares utter hostility toward Iran, or at least neutrality, and gives the Arabs guarantees when in fact it has for years been trying to find a way to reach an understanding with Iran. As usual, what has been revealed is only part of the truth, which we will not know for a long time.

We see that deception has reached a point where publicly the United States says it is putting pressure on Israel to prevent it sending arms to Iran, while secretly it comes to some understanding with it on the dispatch of such arms.

We see that Arab anger is something which the United States does not take into consideration at all, on any front.

KUWAIT

Government Denounces Assistance to Israel

LD271336 Kuwait KUNA in English 0931 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] New York, Nov 27 (KUNA) — Kuwait has denounced any assistance given to the aggressive and expansionist Zionist entity as equal to recognizing occupation and suppression of people, calling upon the U.N. to name a preparatory committee for the planned international peace conference on the Middle East.

It also appealed on [as received] major powers reluctant to endorse the idea of the international peace conference, out of partiality to Israel, to join the world community in supporting the plan as the suitable framework for tackling the issue, with the participation of all parties to the conflict, including the PLO as legitimate and sole representative of the Palestinian people.

Addressing the U.N. General Assembly's session here last night on the Mideast situation, Kuwait's permanent delegate Muhammad Abu al-Hasan termed the problem as the biggest dilemma facing those concerned with world peace and security and the sacred rights of people in such a strategic area.

He noted that since it was implanted in the Arab land of Palestine, Israel has pursued its aggressive and expansionist policy of attacking Arab countries, usurping Palestinian right and land and causing a constant state of tension and instability at the world level.

Ambassador Abu al-Hasan cited Israel's continued occupation of Arab lands, illegal annexation of the Syrian Golan Heights, its invasion of Lebanon and occupation of south Lebanon and its air raids against Iraq and Tunisia.

This violent and adventurist Israeli nature, the delegate indicated, reflects its strategy and policy aimed at liquidating all forms of Arab or Palestinian resistance and imposing Israel's hegemony over the entire area.

Kuwait denounces any assistance given by a U.N. member to Israel and urges the world body to do more than just condemning Israel's continued violations in the occupied Arab lands, he said, reiterating Kuwait's unreserved support to the Palestinian people and the Lebanese national resistance in fighting Israel's occupation and protecting Lebanon's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity.

Underlining legitimacy of Arab armed struggle against the Zionist invaders, the delegate refuted Israeli allegations branding these courageous acts with terrorism and repeated that just peace in the Middle East can only be attained by an Israeli complete withdrawal from all Arab territories and recognition of the Palestinian people's natural rights of self-determination and statehood.

Abu al-Hasan renewed the Arab countries' commitment to a peace settlement, recalling in this connection the 1983 Arab Fes peace plan reconfirmed at the Casablanca extraordinary Arab summit in August 1985 and called upon the U.N. to form a preparatory committee, including representatives of the five permanent U.N. Security Council states, for the planned international peace conference on the Middle East.

He said this would create the suitable mechanism to a peace settlement of the Palestinian problem and called upon major powers hesitant in supporting the planned conference to reconsider their narrow and partial stand in favour of Israel and join the international community desirous for peacefully resolving the Middle East crisis.

Paper Urges States to Review Stance on Egypt

LD270901 Kuwait KUNA in English 0801 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 27 (KUNA) — A local paper Thursday called upon Arab countries with traditional ties to Iran to reconsider their stance following revelation of alarming facts of the U.S.-Israeli-Iranian armaments deal.

Al-Ray' al-Amm daily, commenting on Israel's confirmation yesterday of arms shipments to Iran, explained that enemies of the Arab nation have unmasked themselves as parties to a dirty game aimed at maintaining and manipulating rifts and dissentions among the Arab countries.

"Nobody," it underlined, "can accept any more that some (Arab) countries supporting Iran will continue traditional relations contradicting the principles of pan-Arabism and the facts of geography, history and civilization."

The newspaper indicated that those opposing Egypt's return to the Arab fold had lost the valid reason now that it became clear that cooperating with Iran will eventually lead into the Israeli camp.

Such opposition to Egypt's return should be dropped and substituted by another practical stance that goes beyond repetition of slogans and accords with the nature of counter-moves to avoid more dissention within Arab ranks, *Al-Ray'* concluded.

OMAN

Foreign Ministry Statement on Oilfield Attack

JN261417 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs — date not given]

[Text] The Sultanate of Oman has received the news of the military aggression against the Abu al-Bukush oilfield with extreme concern. The sultanate declares its complete and total support for the fraternal UAE in its confrontation of any aggression aimed at undermining its sovereignty and its legitimate interests and warns about the consequences of repeating such hostile and irresponsible acts which can only be interpreted as an attempt to expand the conflict in the region.

Joint Forces Conduct Military Maneuvers

JN261613 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] The joint Omani-British forces, which are conducting the "Swift Sword" maneuvers on the sultanate's territory — in which forces from all ground, sea, and air corps in both countries are taking part — conducted the major portion of their maneuvers today. Today's maneuvers were watched by Fahr ibn Taymur, deputy prime minister for security and defense; Information Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Rawwas; George Younger, British secretary of state for defense and the delegation accompanying him; Staff Major General Hasan ibn Ihasan ibn Nasib, Defense Ministry under secretary; and Staff Major General Hamid ibn Sa'id al-'Ufi, assistant defense chief of staff.

Today's maneuvers included the landing of paratroopers, an attack by airborne forces preceded by an operation aimed at protecting the paratroopers' landing area through air bombardment, naval fire support, and an amphibious operation against mock enemy targets to confuse the enemy and minimize its preparedness to confront the airborne attack.

A joint force from the Omani and British forces took part in today's exercise. The maneuvers were conducted in the village of Al-Shiyah in the (Ra's al-Hibr) area of Al-Sharqiyah.

Information Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Rawwas and George Younger, British secretary of state for defense, held a joint press conference at the Qasr al-Bustan Hotel this afternoon during which they discussed Omani-British relations and the "Swift Sword" maneuvers currently being conducted in the sultanate by joint Omani-British forces. The British secretary praised Omani-British relations and described them as excellent and very strong. He also paid tribute to the high and distinguished level of the sultan's Armed Forces and their combat skills and abilities.

Maneuvers Not Result of Threat

JN271139 Doha QNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Muscat, 27 Nov (QNA) — Information Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rawwas has denied that the Omani-British joint exercises being held in Oman at present are due to a specific threat to Oman. He emphasized that Oman does not fear any threat whatsoever because it enjoys good relations with all its neighbors without exception.

Speaking at a joint news conference he held with British Defense Secretary George Younger on 26 January and reported by Muscat radio today. Al-Rawwas said the joint exercises are part of the Omani-British plans to train the forces in all weather conditions and to train the Omani forces in the use of sophisticated weapons to defend the homeland, and not to launch an aggression against anyone.

Referring to the attack on the Abu al-Bukush oilfield the Omani information minister reaffirmed Oman's support for the UAE in any stand it decides to take to deal with the situation arising from the aggression. He asserted that Oman has repeatedly called for an end to the Iraq-Iran war.

British Defense Secretary George Younger denied there is any relationship between the joint exercises and developments in the region or anywhere else.

Asked about the presence of British Navy ships close to the Gulf, Younger said instructions were issued to the ships to be in the area every now and then in case of an emergency. He asserted that the British ships did not take part in any of the events that have occurred. He said if any British ship should face difficulties, the presence of the British Navy close by will be very useful.

PDRY

Government Expresses 'Concern' Over Attack on UAE

EA270055 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] An authoritative source at the Foreign Ministry has issued a statement in which it expresses the PDRY Government's concern over the act of aggression to which the sisterly UAE was subjected by unidentified aircraft.

The source pointed out that, because of its firm, principled policy and attitudes, and its eagerness to see security and stability achieved for the peoples of the region, the PDRY expresses its solidarity with the sisterly UAE and condemns this act of aggression against a sisterly state; this violation of its sovereignty; and the harm done to its citizens and its installations.

The source stressed that such acts of aggression and other acts incompatible with the principles of international law constitute a serious danger to security and stability in the region. Because of their political results, they serve the interests of imperialism and Zionism which aim to escalate tension and exacerbate trouble spots in order to further promote their aggressive designs and objectives.

Al-'Attas Returns from Visit to Algeria, Syria

EA272318 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0330 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Excerpts] Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and the delegation accompanying him returned to Aden yesterday evening after paying a visit to the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria and the Syrian Arab Republic. [passage omitted]

Haydar Al-'Attas made a statement to ANA in which he said:

Our visit to the Democratic Republic of Algeria was successful and fruitful. Our discussions with Algerian officials, headed by Brother Chadli Bendjedid, president of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria and secretary general of the FLN Party, were characterized by complete understanding about ways of developing and strengthening the relations of our two brotherly countries in various fields.

We studied general Arab and international developments, which call for joint efforts. We bore in mind the importance of promoting and reinforcing Arab solidarity to confront the dangers and conspiracies hatched by imperialism and Zionism against our Arab nation and the PLO; to foil all the capitulationist plans and schemes in the Palestinian arena; and to restore fully the right of the Palestinian people to determine their destiny and establish an independent national state.

Our visit to Syria was also positive. With Syrian President Brother Hafiz Al-Asad we reviewed relations between the two brotherly countries in various fields and the developments in the Arab arena, namely the intensified imperialist plots against our peoples, particularly the imperialist and Zionist onslaught against Syria. We reaffirmed our firm solidarity with steadfast Syria and its attitude toward the struggle of our Arab people, particularly the cause of our Palestinian Arab people and our Lebanese Arab people, and Israel's occupation of part of their territory.

In this connection, holding an Arab summit to reinforce the solidarity of Arab states in confronting imperialist and Zionist plots has become a pressing question.

As we return home, we can say our visits to Syria and Algeria fell within the framework of our country's efforts to consult brothers on the current Arab and international situation and developments; to discover ways of holding more consultations and establishing cooperation between our countries in order to serve the cause of our Arab peoples, especially at this stage in which imperialist and Zionist plots against our peoples and their national and pan-Arab causes are increasing.

Brother Haydar al-'Attas and the delegation accompanying him left Boumidienne international Airport yesterday morning and he was accorded a big official send-off [passage omitted]

Brother Al-'Attas made a news statement on his departure from Algiers in which he said his meeting with the Algerian president was fruitful. It reflected a true brotherly spirit and determination to strengthen and develop relations between the two brotherly countries in various fields.

ANA: 'Ali Nasir Detaining 'Misguided People'

EA272348 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 26 Nov 86

[ANA political commentary]

[Excerpts] On the night of 12 January 1986, the conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his (?henchmen) misled several thousand people into attacking hills and other high points in the capital, Aden, and assaulting residential buildings and road junctions there.

At 0930 on the morning of 13 January the conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and members of his family became the first people to flee the peaceful city of Aden after he had ordered its burning and destruction. Behind him he left those misguided people whom he hurled into the crematorium of death. He used them as a means to fulfill his whims and ambitions for power and domination.

During the 10 months that have passed since the foiling of the 13 January abortive bloody coup, the conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his (?henchmen) have put a number of misguided people into detention camps to prevent them from returning to their homeland and living in peace and stability with their relatives and families, in accordance with the general amnesty decree. These misguided people are living in bad material and psychological conditions in those prison camps. This has been confirmed by those who have succeeded in escaping from those prisons and returning to the homeland, where they are enjoying freedom and a happy life.

Meanwhile, the conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his (?henchmen) are living a life of luxury at the expense of those misguided people. The conspirators do not attach any value to their legitimate rights in life, just as they did not attach any value to the life of the men, women, elderly, and children of the capital, Aden, when they embarked on their abominable deed on the black morning of 13 January, destroying innocent people and exposing the homeland to self-created dangers.

Today, in order to satisfy his crazy whims for power, the conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, is trying to violate the security and stability of our people and jeopardize innocent people's lives. In order to fulfill his sick dreams, he does not care about using some of these misled people, even if he drives them to their death, because as far as he is concerned, they are more tools he can use, just as he used other misled people whom he allowed to die, leaving orphans and bereaved people behind. On the other hand, he strove to take his wife and children to safety before giving the signal to starting the mass killing on the morning of that bloody day, 13 January 1986.

Now, after inundating the pages of numerous foreign newspapers and magazines with obvious lies and heroic statements, which cannot kill a single fly or blow up a single balloon, he is adding a new sinister factor to his disgraceful terrorist attributes: he is seeking to harm the security and stability of our people by sending terrorist sabotage squads equipped with arms and explosions which aim to continue the game of death and terrorism, which has become one of the components of sick, bloody, killer, and terrorist personality.

In reality, however, he is not adding anything new to the results of [words indistinct] in resorting to sabotage and terrorism. Our Yemeni revolution has already experienced this type of confrontation with its enemies. It has always emerged victorious and strong. [passage omitted]

However, the revolution today has firm roots and is rich in experiences. It is capable of inflicting defeat after defeat on all the plots which aim to halt its continued progress. Just as the security services, guarding the security and safety of the homeland, and citizens succeeded in arresting the sabotage and terror group sent by the conspirators to kill the men, women, and childten of Abyan Governorate, they will continue their high vigilance and strike with an iron fist at whomever allows himself to be enticed into violating the security and stability of the people. The terrorists will meet the fate that is awaiting them. Justice will have its say as far as they and whoever instigated the 13 January bloody conspiracy are concerned, by means of a constitutional trial — not the show trials mentioned in the black coup statement, issued by the conspirators at noon on Monday, the 13th of bloody January when the Constitution, the law and the principles entrusted to them were perverted into committees for death. They stormed meetings halls and public squares and passed the death sentence on militants and innocent people. They implemented it in a comradely fascist manner on the orders of the fugitive killer and his bloody (?henchmen).

Today we are stronger than ever before and are profoundly confident in our ability to be steadfast in the face of challenges. Our party and people will firmly strike at all the sabotage and terrorist tentacles which attempt to violate the sovereignty, security, and stability of the homeland and its citizens. Those who have [word indistinct] in their minds must learn the lessons and consequences of those who preceded them in sabotage and also preceded them to the crematorium of death.

QATAR

Goverment Condemns Air Attack on UAE Oilfield

JN271101 Doha QNA in Arabic 1035 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Doha, 27 Nov (QNA) — The State of Qatar has expressed its regret at and condemnation of the air attack on the Abu al-Bukush offshore oilfield in the UAE.

An official source at the Foreign Ministry has stated to QNA that Qatar strongly condemns such a grave action that has claimed innocent lives, and shares the view declared by the UAE yesterday that the attack exacerbates the dangers threatening the region and threatens the interests and security of peaceloving states.

The Qatari source declared that Qatar supports the fraternal UAE with all its capabilities in all circumstances and in continuing the efforts being made within the framework of the GCC to spare the region of all dangers and threats and to strengthen security and stability in the GCC states.

Newspapers Criticize Attack

JN271245 Doha QNA in Arabic 0700 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Doha, 27 Nov (QNA) — In their editorials today, Qatari newspapers expressed regret over the attack against the Abu al-Bukush oilfield in the UAE and demanded that the Iraq-Iran war be stopped by all means.

The newspaper *Al-Rayah* said this attack came as a new, serious escalation of this war, which has grave consequences and which shakes security and stability in the region. It also constitutes an open invitation for foreign forces to interfere in the conflict meaninglessly continuing between two Muslim neighbors. It added this incident came at a time when the UAE, along with its GCC sister countries, worked sincerely to stop the fighting and urged the two sides to resort to peaceful means to end the conflict in a way guaranteeing the legitimate rights of both sides, and to find a just and final peaceful settlement of this fierce war.

Al-Rayah expressed the belief that the attack against the Abu al-Bukush oilfield was aimed at involving the UAE, along with the region's countries, in the conflict. The paper said this will not happen in any form whatsoever because the region's countries are working by all means to achieve security and peace, and this attack will not make them desist from their determination to end this war.

The newspaper *Al-Khalij al-Yawm* warned of the danger posed by such incidents to the region's stability and security. It pointed to the firm stand of the region's countries calling for the need to maintain security in the region and to deter foreign interference. The paper hailed the UAE's position on the incident, saying it was a balanced position and stressed the UAE's continued role in efforts to stop the Iraq- Iran war, while reserving the right to take appropriate measures to safeguard its security and stability and guarantee aggression will not be repeated.

The paper said Arab reactions were equal to the level of the incident. In this regard, the paper referred to Qatar's postiion, expressed by Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, heir apparent and defense minister, during his telephone contact yesterday with Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, Abu Dhabi heir apparent and deputy supreme commander of the UAE Armed Forces.

In conclusion, *Al-Khalij al-Yawm* called for taking decisive measures to secure the safety of the region's countries.

SAUDI ARABIA

Official Source Denies Repprt on Funding of Deal

LD271311 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1203 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Riyadh, 27 Nov (SPA) — In answer to the report yesterday evening by AP — quoting news reports published by the *New York Times* and *The Washington Times* and attributed to unspecified U.S. and Israeli sources that said it is possible that Saudi citizen Adnan Khashoggi acted on behalf of the Saudi Government in arranging the funding of the Iranian purchases of American weapons — an official source told SPA, in answer to a question put to him this morning: "We very much regret the fact that such tendentious and false reports and others are put out by some of the media that enjoy the confidence of readers throughout the world, as all the reports which were attributed to unknown sources were mere figments of the imagination and mere falsifications, and were totally unfounded."

The source added: "Despite the fact that our information policy refuses to reply to such reports — in view of the fact that we are convinced the reader realizes the aims of those who fabricate such reports and who deliberately make the media put them out — we will not hesitate to file a lawsuit in the country of origin of any media that does not seek the truth in what it publishes about

Saudi Arabia, to deal with it in a manner that will put matters on their right course."

The source concluded. "We have repeatedly announced that the official Saudi information departments, both in Saudi Arabia and abroad, are always ready to answer any query that seeks the truth."

King Fahd, Bahraini Amir Discuss Oilfield Attack

LD270227 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Excerpts] Information Minister 'Ali al-Sha'ir, made a statement to SPA after the talks chaired today by King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, and Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman al-Khalifa. He said:

Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa Ibn Salman al-Khalifa started the meeting by welcoming King Fahd Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the princes and ministers, members of the accompanying delegation. [passage omitted]

The Information Minister said the talks covered a number of issues of common interest to the two fraternal countries, especially the regrettable attack on the installation at Abu al-Bukush oilfield in northwest Abu Dhabi yesterday. They also discussed what was said during the telephone contact made by King Fahd and the Bahraini amir with Shaykh Khalifa ibn Zayid, the heir apparent of Abu Dhabi and deputy commander in chief of the UAE Armed Forces. The two sides expressed their condemnation and denunciation of this incident, which caused the death of several people and significant material damage to the field. The two sides agreed that the repetition of such an incident will lead to the shaking of security that the region enjoys, and they expressed their full support for the UAE in any measure they see suitable in order to prevent such acts. They pledged support for the UAE in any way that would help defend its territories and the lives of its citizens.

The minister added that the talks also covered a comprehensive review of the current issues on the Gulf, Arab and international arenas which are of common interest. The information minister concluded his statement by saying all the views were identical and viewpoints were agreed on principles and aims.

[Riyadh SPA in Arabic at 2015 GMT on 26 November 1986 in an Al-Dammam datelined report adds that "the Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa Ibn Salman al-Khalifa left Al-Dammam this evening for his country after a short visit to Saudi Arabia"]

YAR

Vice President Receives USSR Ambassador

JN261645 Sanaa Domesti Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] This morning, Brother 'Abd al-Karim al-'Arashi, vice president, speaker of the Constituent People's Assembly, and member of the Standing Committee, received USSR Ambassador Anatoliy Ivanovich Filev. The USSR ambassador handed the vice president the appeal issued by the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium to world parliaments and peoples. They also reviewed the cordial relations between the two friendly countries and ways to develop them.

Council 'Extremely Concerned' Over Attack on UAE

JN270928 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0520 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Sanaa, 26 Nov (WAKH) — The YAR Council of Ministers has expressed extreme concern over the serious course followed by the ongoing war between Iraq and Iran after the recent aggression against the UAE oil installations in the Abu al-Bukush oilfield. The Council regarded this aggression as a serious escalation in this losing war, a war Sanaa has always called for ending by peaceful means, in a way that will guarantee the legitimate rights of both Iraq and Iran. Noting this serious escalation, the Council of Ministers stressed that Sanaa stands by its brothers in the UAE.

Abu Ghazalah Ends 'Warm and Cordial' U.S. Visit

NC261834 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1755 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Washington, 26 Nov (MENA) — Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, left Washington today for Cairo, via Paris, following an 11-day visit to the United States.

In a departure statement, Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah said he is carrying a message to President Husni Mubarak from U.S. President Ronald Reagan in response to President Mubarak's note to President Reagan.

In his statement Abu Ghazalah said he had held a series of meetings with officials of the U.S. Administration during his visit to Washington. He described the visit as "warm and cordial," as usual.

Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah said: During the meetings we continued our dialogue on defense and military relations.

Abu Ghazalah expressed Egypt's appreciation for the close ties of friendship linking Egypt with the U.S. Administration and people. He also thanked the U.S. Administration for the warm welcome accorded him during his stay.

Abu Ghazalah was seen off by Egyptian Ambassador in Washington 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Ridi and senior officials of the U.S. Defense and State Departments.

Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah is expected to hold talks with French Defense Minister Andre Giraud during his stopover in Paris.

AL-AHRAM Editor Views U.S. Arms Sales to Iran

JN240719 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 21 Nov 86 pp 1,3

[From the "Quietly" column by *Al-Ahram* editor in chief Irahim Nafi': "The United States, Israel, Iran, and the Arab Destiny"]

[Excerpts] I disagree with those who find a similarity between the Watergate scandal that brought down former U.S. President Richard Nixon and the scandal of the secret arms deal between the United States and Iran that was exposed recently, and as a result of which U.S. President Ronald Reagan is being strongly attacked, both within the United States and outside it. Both are scandals for the U.S. White House; there is no doubt about that. However, the first was a personal scandal for President Nixon connected with his personal political conduct and with his deliberately making false statements to the U.S. Congress on bugging the headquarters of the Democratic Party during an elections campaign. The second is a U.S. political scandal and not a scandal of political conduct connected with the person of the U.S. President. It is a scandal of a flagrant contradiction between a declared U.S. policy — policy that publicly condemns terrorism and any contacts with terrorists and that declares neutrality in the Gulf war — and U.S. actions in making secret contacts with those whom it describes as terrorists in Iran, and in organizing arms supplies to Iran through Israel, thus prolonging the war and fueling the destruction and devastation in the region.

The dilemma created by the arms deal is more the dilemma of U.S. policy in the world and in the Middle East than the dilemma of U.S. President Reagan.

It appears that contradiction between declared objectives and actual practice has become one of the norms of international politics in an age when interests are intertwined and international relations are complex. If the contradiction in the United States policy is scandalous, the contradiction in the Iranian policy is horrifying. [passage omitted]

Whatever pretexts the White House is now using to justify the damnable deal, in my view the deal is a scandalous mistake in the U.S. policy toward the Arab states, particularly the Gulf states.

The only justification given by the United States so far is that it is seeking to bring about the release of the American hostages, and that it wants to contact the moderate elements in Iran to support them and help them to overcome the hardliners.

In my view such an explanation is totally inadequate to justify the secret contacts with Iran. It does not justify deceiving the Arab states that are friendly to the United States.

The United States is in fact betting on the fight for succession in Iran. However, a sound political assessment will confirm that the United States will not be able to benefit from such a conflict, because its outcome is not guaranteed, and because it could lead to opposite results if the elements against whom the United States bet should triumph — and that is the more likely outcome.

Even a bet on the release of the American hostages is not altogether guaranteed. If the hostages are released then the price is exorbitant, for it means that the release of the hostages requires supplying their kidnappers with arms.

The U.S. bias in favor of Iran will pose threats to the Arab region, and it is not known why the United States did not take these threats into consideration when it concluded its arms deal with Iran. There is no doubt that Israel is seeking to prolong the war between Iraq and Iran indefinitely so as to exhaust the resources of the two sides. There is also no doubt that an Iranian victory over the Iraqi side will threaten the security and stability of the countries in the area — which is contrary to the declared policy of the United States.

Perhaps it is surprising that the secrets of the U.S. arms supplies to Iran unfolded shortly after the refusal of the United States to supply Saudi Arabia with the missiles and defensive weapons it requested, and Jordan with the arms it needs for defense. However there should be no surprises in politics, only calculations, interests, and ends that justify the "means".

The U.S. government has felt that it needs to clarify its stand and the reasons for its secret arms deal with Iran to some Arab states — after this secret deal became known and not before. U.S.

President Ronald Reagan sent messages to President Mubarak and several Arab kings and leaders explaining the reasons for and circumstances of the U.S. contacts. I do not think that the explanation was sufficiently convincing. Ever since the outbreak of the Gulf war Egypt advocated that the two superpowers should be neutral as a way to exert pressure on the two sides to stop their bloody war. As far as I know the United States understood the Egyptian stand despite Egypt's arms supplies to Iraq. However, the reports on the United States departing from its policy of neutrality and supplying Iran with arms will change many of the calculations in the region. It is certain that the recent U.S. arms supplies to Iran will not be in the interest of the United States in the long run.

The present state of Arab "silence" will not last long. Although the criticisim of and attacks on President Reagan and his policy toward Iran inside the United States are greater than in the Arab region and in the Gulf, which is being directly threatened, such Arab slumber will not last long.

The day will come when the Gulf states, including Iraq, will question the seriousness of U.S. pledges to them to support them against the Iranian threat and against external threats. Nevertheless, we are very surprised that no Arab stand has yet evolved in the face of such a threat. We are also surprised that the Gulf states that are directly facing the Iranian threat have not taken any action so far — even to call on the Arab states to discuss the new serious situation. [passage omitted]

'Arafat Adviser Meets Foreign Ministry Official

NC261903 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1845 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 26 Nov (MENA) — Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary of the Foreign Ministry and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, met this afternoon with Hani al-Hasan, a political adviser to Yasir 'Arafat. The meeting was also attended by Zuhdi al-Qudran, the Fatah Movement representative in Cairo.

At the meeting political developments in the Palestinian and international arenas were discussed, within the context of ongoing consultations and exchanges of views between Egypt and the PLO.

Hani al-Hasan arrived in Cairo this morning.

Economic Talks Begin With Soviet Delegation

NC261647 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1350 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 26 Nov (MENA) — The first session of Egyptian-Soviet economic talks began in Cairo today. The Egyptian delegation was headed by Dr Yusri Mustafa, minister of economy and foreign trade, and the Soviet group by Viktor Dementsev, chairman of the board of the USSR State Bank.

Following the talks, Dr Yusri Mustafa said that on Monday the two sides expect to sign a trade and payment agreement for the next 5 years, in addition to a trade protocol. He added that the Egyptian and Soviet sides are eager to bring the talks to a successful conclusion.

Meanwhile, two committees have been formed — the first to discuss outstanding financial problems between the two countries, and the second to discuss the commodities and goods to be included in the trade protocol.

Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Begins Talks in Cairo

NC271321 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1110 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Excerpts] Cairo, 27 Nov (MENA) — Official talks between Egypt and Ecuador opened at the Foreign Ministry this morning. The Egyptians were led by Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, while the Ecuadoran delegation was headed by Foreign Minister Edgar Teran, who arrived in Cairo last night for a 4-day visit.

Their discussions dealt with ways of strengthening bilateral political, cultural, and economic relations. [passage omitted] The Middle East situation was also covered. Dr Ghali made a detailed presentation on regional developments, the peace process, and Egypt's efforts to bring about a just and comprehensive settlement that would guarantee the Palestinian people's legitimate rights to self-determination and to a state of their own. The value of an international peace conference attended by all concerned parties was stressed as well. [passage omitted]

The conferees also examined conditions in Latin America, with emphasis on Central America. Both sides affirmed the importance of bringing peace and stability to the region. [passage omitted]

The Ecuadoran foreign minister described his talks with Dr Ghali as positive and constructive and noted that they confirmed the close relations between the two states. [passage omitted]

'Abd al-Majid Returns From Rome 27 Nov

NC280609 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2300 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 27 Nov (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned to Cairo from Rome tonight at the conclusion of a 4-day official visit to Italy, during which he led Egypt's delegation to a meeting of the joint Italian-Egyptian Commission.

Upon his arrival at Cairo Airport, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that the commission had successfully concluded its work and that a proces-verbal had been signed encompassing all areas of economic and technical cooperation between Egypt and Italy.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid declared that Egypt obtained a $93 million grant from the Italian Government, compared to $43 million in the previous agreement. It also obtained a soft loan of $150 million, compared to $105 million in the previous agreement.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that agreement had been reached on the establishment of joint projects in the areas of industry, agriculture, and food security. He also expressed his appreciation to the

Italian Government for its stand in support of Egypt's position on the IMF.

He explained that his talks with the Italian foreign minister had dealt with all aspects of the Middle East problem and with other issues that are of interest to the two countries as Mediterranean states. He added that he undertook contacts with several West European foreign ministers during his stay in Rome.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid concluded by saying that he will submit a report on the visit to President Mubarak at the earliest opportunity.

Official Interviewed on Nuclear Research

JN251422 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 22 Nov 86 p3

[By Mahmud al-Qanawati]

[Text] In a comprehensive interview with the paper, Dr Muhammad 'Izzat 'Abd al-'Aziz, chairman of the Egyptian Atomic Energy Commission, explained the importance of the uses of atomic energy in the various fields.

Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz said that although Egypt had established its Atomic Energy Commission 30 years ago — almost the same time as India established its own commission — and had preceded in this field many of the developing countries, including certain states of the region, that now possess great nuclear capabilities, certain problems still hinder its progress. On the other hand, India and Argentina, whose economic conditions are similar to ours, have given atomic energy all their capabilities.

Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz added: In fact, the lack of these capabilities in Egypt has led to the emigration of a large number of competent scientists to the West.

However, the interview with the top official in the Egyptian Atomic Energy Commission has given hope that, despite the financial difficulties it is facing, the commission still has vast capabilities and only needs financial support to establish a major nuclear base.

It is strange that while the world today is concerned about research in nuclear fusion, which is a very advanced stage, the Egyptian commission has so far not been able to obtain the approval and the funds to build a second nuclear reactor to replace the Soviet reactor, which is now outdated and for which there are no spare parts.

Despite suffering from financial and bureaucratic restrictions, the commission has made several important achievements in training cadres and technicians, concluding agreements on the processing of nuclear fuel at factory level, and getting rid of radioactive waste. In fact, the commission has established four centers for various nuclear uses.

Regarding the commission chairman's view of the commission's present situation, achievements, problems, scopes of international cooperation, and future plans and strategies, we first asked about the commission's achievements in the past 30 years as well as its current major projects.

Dr 'Abd al-'Aiz replied: The Atomic Energy Commission was established in 1955. This was followed in the late 1950's by the establishment of the Atomic Energy Organization in Imshas, where several installations were set up, beginning with the Reactors' Section — which includes, since 1961, the Soviet-made research reactor with a capacity of 2 megawatts — and the Nuclear Science Section, which includes the Van de Graaff Generator with a capacity of 2.5 million electronic volts. This generator is used in the research of nuclear reactors. There is also the Experimental Nuclear Physics Section which includes several other plants. The commission also established the Radioactive Istotopes Section, which undertakes the peaceful use of istotopes in agricultural, industrial, and medical fields; the Bioligical Radioactive Section, which undertakes the use of isotopes in the biological fields; and the Industrial Radioactive Section, which undertakes the production of atomic equipment and the maintenance of advanced nuclear-powered electronic equipment.

In the early 1960's, the number of scientific sections increased to 12, and the number of researchers also increased. The commission's nuclear scientific base expanded, and this resulted in the establishment of new organizations: the Nuclear Reactors Organization and the Nuclear Materials Organization, which was once the Nuclear Physics Section. In the 1970's, the Nuclear Energy Organization set up several research centers, including the National Center for Research and Radioactive Technology and the old Nuclear Research Center in Inshas, which was the main center and consisted of 12 scientific sections covering all basic nuclear specializations. Later, several other centers were added, including the Nitrons and Reactors section, which uses the research reactors; the Plasma and Accelerators Section, and the Water and Soil Research Section.

The research in the new centers concentrates on three areas:

1. Nuclear power support research: Among the projects started under my chairmanship of the Nuclear Research Center was the introduction of nuclear fuel technology for the first time in Egypt. A contract was reached to build a nuclear fuel plant. We have already received the equipment and we are now in the process of building this plant. The fuel units will begin production next year at the factory level in the initital stage. The importance of this project lies in the fact that we are drawing up our plan in such a way that Egypt will not fall under the monopoly of any major power with regard to nuclear reactors. This technology is being introduced by means of a small plant that produces nuclear fuel, beginning with uranian oxide powder and ending with the manufacture of the rod used in reactors. This will be followed several years later by the semi-industrial phase. It will then be possible to build an entire nuclear fuel plant after gaining full experience. This is considered an important nuclear plan for backing the Egyptian nuclear program. A decision to build the first nuclear power station must be made soon.

2. The activity of the Nuclear Research Center: This center undertakes practical research and experimental work, mainly in the production and use of radioactive isotopes. The production of

isotopes currently takes place through the Soviet research reactor, although it is already outdated and has no available spare parts. Egypt should have obtained another reactor with a larger capacity extending to 20 megawatts.

3. Basic research, which some people consider as a kind of pastime despite its great importance: This research leads to the creation of scientific cadres and expertise familiar with nuclear experiments and research. Other major research is conducted in the Plazma Section, on what is called nuclear fusion, the ionization of gas under certain conditions. This is the opposite of nuclear fission of heavy uranium atoms. Fusion is the merger of heavy hydrogen atoms (detrium and tetrium). This generates a terrific power similar to that generated by explosions on the sun's surface. Such energy has both peaceful and military uses. A great breakthrough has been made in this field. It was once thought that it would take the world 60 years to manufacture nuclear fusion reactors. However, recent results show that the year 2010 will witness the advent of the first experimental nuclear fusion reactor. The distinctive thing about this reactor is that the fuel will be water — from which we obtain heavy hydrogen — and lithium, which is cheap and readily available. Thus, it will not be a strategic item controlled by the major powers as is uranium. Furthermore, this system is free of radioactive waste.

This is why the commission is so concerned about research on nuclear fusion. Egypt has conducted many research projects in this field that were presented to various international forums and conferences. Interest in this field is due to the extreme importance of the subject. Once nuclear fusion reactors become a reality, Egypt will have vast experience in the field.

The commission's Nuclear Research Center employs about 2,000 scientists, experts, and professionals who work as a single integrated team. One of the commission's most important new centers is the National Center for Radioactive Research and Technology in Madinat Nasr. This center, headed by Dr Hamid Rushdi who carries out a first class program, has a huge cobalt unit, a power plant that will be assembled soon, and another cobalt unit that has been in existence for several years and which is carrying out a great mission in radioactive processes, such as sterilizing medicinal and pharmaceutical preparations. This is in addition to research on improving radiation technology. The importance of the accelerator section is that it is used in treating industrial products such as rubber, car tires, and electrical cables by radiation to improve their quality.

[Al-Qanawati] Any state having radioactive materials and using the atom in its research must have the means to treat radioactive isotopes and materials and dump radioactive waste. What is the commission's position on tackling this problem?

['Abd al-'Aziz] The Atomic Energy Commission is building a radioactive processing plant that contains radioactive material. This material, contained in a shielded building, is treated from a distance to avoid exposure to radiation. The main purpose of the plant is to get rid of low-level and medium-level radioactive waste, reprocess nuclear fuel, and produce certain useful materials such as uranium. The international Atomic Energy Agency signed an agreement on building this plant, which will be a regional one. Work on this plant is about to be completed. As chairman of the Nuclear Research Center, I concluded a contract with the German side [not further identified] on building a furnace for radioactive waste. This furnace, built in Germany, will be shipped to Egypt soon. The furnace will be used for getting rid of radioactive waste. Other radioactive material will be buried in an area being prepared for this purpose to avert any danger from radioactive waste and isotopes.

[Al-Qanawati] What research have you conducted in the peaceful use of atomic power?

['Abd al-'Aziz] In addition to what I have already mentioned, the commission has published the results of more than 4,000 research projects in major magazines. It also presented this research to international scientific conferences. This research also served as thesis topics for 550 doctorates and 700 MA degrees. This research is prepared by each section in cooperation with other sections in the center.

Research serving certain specific strategies in the commission includes work on nuclear fuel and nuclear fusion, and experiments on such materials as Egyptian steel for pressurized containers. There has also been medical, agricultural, and industrial research, such as the program on acclimatizing foreign livestock to the Egyptian environment, the use of microbiological methods in treating certain materials with radiation, and research into discovering cancerous tumors.

The Egyptian Atomic Energy Commission and the Indian commission were established at the same time. Although Egypt began work in this field before Agentina and other developing and regional countries, these countries now possess great nuclear capabilities. Therefore, we asked about Egypt's nuclear situation and the future of the Egyptian nuclear reactor.

Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz said: We are comparing Egyptian nuclear capabilities to some neighboring countries' great nuclear capabilities. Egypt can build real nuclear capabilities only if the basic needs — foremost, a large research reactor — are provided. Libya, for example, has a new research reactor of 10 megawatts and another large nuclear research center containing one of the newest nuclear fusion systems called (Nucomak). This system constitutes a base for a future nuclear fusion reactor. Such a system, which includes sophisticated and modern devices for measurement as well as two neutron generators, does not exist in the Middle East.

Egypt should have another reactor for research because Egypt is in the vanguard in this field and has given these countries the know-how. The commission's board of directors has agreed to build a second reactor and Electricity and Energy Minister Mahir Abazah is trying to get sufficient funds for it because he sees this issue as an important step not only in building our nuclear capabilities, but in training cadres for nuclear stations.

Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz added: The commission lacks nuclear cadres becausethey leave Egypt and migrate to other countries with nuclear capabilities. Egypt should have gotten its first nuclear station in the 1960's when the Commission got its first offer. At that time, the station would have cost only $35 million. Although it was a small one, it contained a nuclear fuel plant and a complete desalination unit. Today, such a nuclear station costs $2 billion.

Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz also said: Some people fear nuclear stations as a result of the Chernobyl incident. Such fear is justified because the incident was a serious one. But if we learn the facts about this incident, as well as the difference between the Chernobyl reactor and the Western reactors on which the Egyptian reactor will be modeled, our fears will disappear. The incident took place as a result of a serious human error and the absence of a concrete shield to prevent any leaks or dangerous radiation. The 3-Mile incident in the United States, for example, did not harm anybody because of just such a concrete-shielded building.

Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz added: By the end of the 1950's, India, along with Egypt, began to introduce atomic energy. They faced similar conditions, but India made good progress and became a nuclear power that can produce nuclear fuel and energy. What is true of India is also true of Argentina. The real reason for these two countries' progress in this field is that nuclear research in both countries was provided with every requirement and allowed to move freely to meet its needs, to receive sufficient funds, and to avoid government bureaucracy and other complications.

In Egypt, for example, the commision cannot spend more than 100,000 Egyptian pounds from its budget — if available — to purchase equipment from the local market, yet atomic energy requires many imported spare parts which must be bought with foreign currency. What is also strange is that the commission sometimes gets funds it cannot spend due to similar restrictions. Moreover, there is insufficient foreign currency to open letters of credit. All these complications are due to impotent bureacractic measures. For instance, we requested a multipowered cyclotron because of its extreme importance in applied sciences, in strategic areas, and in research, but we haven't gotten it yet.

There is an urgent need for us to build our nuclear cpabilities, but this will only take place gradually. Egypt must have a nuclear power station with a modern nuclear safety device, a scientific infratructure, a nucleus for producing nuclear fuel, a facility for disposing radioactive waste, and technical and scientific personnel. All these form a basis for a nuclear industry. Only after obtaining these things can we talk about Egypt's nuclear capabilities.

[Al-Qanawati] This year, a number of errors were made as a result of misusing radioactive materials. How is the commission planning to avoid such mistakes?

['Abd al-'Aziz] All the errors were personal errors and the commission has tackled them. In the cobalt unit case, the necessary measures were taken to ensure that no radiation dangers occur. The unit was then transferred to Inshas for storage.

Regarding Egypt's supervision and protection system for radioactive isotopes and sources, an agreement was reached in coordination with the Health Ministry. The present law defines the prerogatives of the Atomic Energy Commission, but sometimes difficulties crop up as a result of misapplication. However, efforts are being made to coordinate between the two sides.

On the other hand, a list of radioactive sources and isotopes is being drawn up, and instructions for their use, application, and importation have been issued. This was stressed by former Health Minister Hilmi al-Hadidi who devoted special attention to this matter. I must point out that the commission is in possession of a very important project that was approved by the Higher Committee for Economic Policies and Affairs. This project calls for monitoring radioactivity in various places. Radioactivity will be monitored in 12 places, and the results will be automatically transferred to a data-collecting center in Cairo and will be fed into a computer. With this system, we will be able to monitor the radioactive picture constantly and record any incease in radioactivity.

[Al-Qanawati] What dangers are posed by nuclear-powered ships passing through the Suez Canal?

['Abd al-'Aziz] The commission's views in this matter are very clear: the passage of nuclear-powered ships through the canal should be discouraged. The inherent dangers are more than we can face at present. In order to allow these ships to pass through the canal, we must take the precautions of a full-fledged emergency plan.

[Al-Qanawati] It was recently reported that Israel possesses nuclear arms. Did this come as a surprise?

['Abd al-'Aziz] Of course, what was reported on Israeli nuclear arms capability did not surprise those who knew Israel's nuclear capability and its long history of efforts to strengthen its nuclear power. All this had been known. Israel had a reactor whose main task was to produce plutonium, which is the nuclear fuel for the atomic bomb. Israel possesses all the capabilities to produce atomic bombs and has laboratories to train cadres in all fields. Its universities and institutes have nuclear research centers working with the aim of realizing the same strategy of building nuclear power — be it in terms of nuclear materials, nuclear weapons, or nuclear technology. Israel is also working in the field of nuclear fusion. One of the published secrets is that Israel possesses a thermo-nuclear weapon. This means that it possesses hydrogen bombs. This is not far-fetched because Israel's resources enable it to have them. Israel is not working alone. It is supported by specialized scientific powers and expertise from advanced nations. It is also cooperating with South Africa.

My plan is based on three points:

1. Continuing the promotion of the nuclear programs by supporting the nuclear fuel program and the dumping of radioactive waste.

2. Exerting our utmost to obtain for research purposes a second nuclear reactor with at least a 15-megawatt capacity.

3. Revising our calculations in terms of the commission's plans forsaving the small amount of money we obtain from the state. We must pool this money to promote definite and feasible programs with effective results. We have done a great deal of basic research and cadre preparation. We must start research on the applications and realize a clear-cut strategy.

Coptic Pope Denies Rumors of 'State' in Asyut

NC271124 Cairo MENA in English 2328 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, Nov 26 (MENA) — Pope Shinudah III, head of the Egyptian Coptic Orthodox Church, is quoted here as denying rumours that the Coptic Church is calling for setting up a Coptic state in Asyut, upper Egypt.

In an interview carried in the early edition of tomorrow's *Al-Akhbar*, a Cairo morning Arabic-language daily, Pope Shinudah, while refuting these rumours in detail, attributes them to a secret leaflet said to be issued by him in March 1982.

He says the wide circulation of this strange leaflet at that time prompted the government to form a fact finding committee, which reported the leaflet as "obviously fabricated."

On the Muslim-Copt unity of the Egyptian nation, and the point that it is formed of one element and not rpt not two elements, the Pope says he is inclined to refer to all the Egyptians, Muslims and Copts, as being one element, because the great fusion among them has obliterated all anthropological, national and cultural differences among them.

In this context, he refers also to common names given to children, with the exception, however, of distinctive names.

"The reference to the Egyptians as being two elements meant no more than belonging to two faiths. All are Egyptians, belonging to the same homeland and the same nationality", he says.

According to Pope Shinudah, the church prevented Copts from pilgrimage to Jerusalem because of the crisis over Dayr al-Sultan (monastery), a Jerusalem property of the Coptic Church turned over by the Israeli authorities to Ethiopian monks despite a verdict from the Israeli supreme court to turn the monastery back to the Coptic Church.

Communique Says Aircraft Raid 7 Iranian Camps

JN261625 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1555 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Communique No 2,459 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 26 November 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With success granted by God the almighty and with a strong determination and great efforts by brave, loyal men, our victories over the despotic, agent, and aggressor clique continue, our country's power is confirmed, and the factors of weakness, disintegration, and collapse within the ranks of our enemy are exposed. In order to inflict further losses on the aggressors, our heroic Air Force today carried out heroic new duties during which it inflicted massive losses on our country's enemies who, prompted by the wicked Zionism, are insisting on the war. These losses are as follows:

1. At 1400 [1100 GMT] today, our aircraft launched a destructive raid on the Shahin camp.

2. At 1430 today, our aircraft carried out a devastating raid on the Khaneh camp.

3. At the same time, other aircraft were making intensive strikes against the enemies in the Galdian camp.

4. At 1500 today, our aircraft dropped their crushing bombs on the (?Zail) camp.

5. At 1615 today, our aircraft launched a successful raid on the Eshahabad camp.

6. At 1616 today, our aircraft raided the (Shahqazmi) camp, destroying their targets.

7. At 1635 today, our aircraft delivered painful strikes against the Khomeyniites in the Sanandaj camp.

After inflicting massive losses on the enemy personnel, equipment, weapons, ammunition dumps, and installations in all these camps, our hero hawks returned safely and triumphantly to the homeland with their aircraft. Congratulations to our Air Force on these successive splendid victories which we announce to our people every day. We thank God who provides us with power and ability to crush the unjust enemies.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 November 1986

Communique No 2,460

JN261748 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1705 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Communique No 2,460 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 26 November 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our triumphant forces continue to inflict further losses on the aggressors. The results of our activities for last night and today are as follows:

1. Our Air Force planes carried out 149 combat missions against the enemy camps and troop concentrations in the operational sectors, after which all our planes returned safely to base, praise be to God.

2. Two units from our formations in the II Army Corps central sector raided the enemy positions and clashed with the enemy soldiers in their positions. The two units killed or wounded some enemy soldiers and destroyed several infantry positions and two machine guns, killing their crewmen. They then returned safely to base. Elsewhere in this sector, an ammunition dump and an infantry position were destroyed and the enemy engineering works were disrupted.

3. One of our units in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah spotted a group of enemy soldiers consisting of 10 persons. It pounded them with all types of weapons, killing or wounding some of them and forcing the rest to flee. Our units in this sector also succeeded in killing five enemy soldiers and destroying one vehicle, one water tanker, and three infantry positions.

4. Two patrols and two small enemy groups tried to approach the positions of one of our formations in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan. Our brave fighters confronted them with their weapons and forced them to flee after killing or wounding some of them. One of our units in this sector also destroyed an enemy vehicle and killed its driver.

5. One enemy soldier was killed and one small vehicle was set ablaze on the VII Army Corps front.

6. In an exposed, frustrated attempt by the regime of the agent charlatans to divert attention from the scandal of political coordination and armament cooperation with Zionism and its entity and with world imperialism, and in a futile attempt to distract attention from their grave losses at the hands of our brave hawks and courageous fighters on the battlefields, the scoundrels of the Khomeyniite clique again resorted to a cowardly act to express their evil feelings. They directed a missile at a densely populated area in Baghdad last night. The incident martyred 48 civilians, including 17 women and 13 children, injured 52 civilians, demolished 5 houses, and heavily damaged 35 other houses and 33 civilian cars.

The criminal enemy also shelled the valiant city of Basra with long-range artillery, martyring one child and another civilian; injuring nine civilians, including three women and two children; demolishing one house; and damaging five houses, two shops, and one civilian car. At 0655 [0355 GMT] today, an enemy aircraft penetrated our international border and attacked the residential areas in Irbil, martyring 1 child and 3 women; injuring 33 civilians, including 12 women and 8 children; and damaging 4 civilian cars.

Iraq, which has thus far refrained from hitting purely residential areas, will use its destructive power to retaliate against these heinous crimes when the hour of vengeance sets in. Mercy and forgiveness for our martyrs and a speedy recovery for our injured, God willing.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 November 1986

Communique No 2,461

JN271756 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Communique No 2,461 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 27 November 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant Armed Forces continued their confrontation of the aggressors. The results of our activities for last night and today are as follows:

1. In order to inflict further losses on the Zionist Iranian regime that insists on continuing the war on the instructions of its Zionist masters and their surrogates who claim to be Arabs, and so that the regime whose agentry has been exposed will realize that its aggression will exact a high price from it every day, large numbers of our aircraft at 1050 [0750 GMT] today simultaneously launched a destructive raid on the camps of Moshk, Robat, and Marivan. At 1445 [1145 GMT] today, other planes launched a violent raid on the Sar Dasht camp. Our courageous pilots pounded their targets in these camps and inflicted serious losses on the Zionist Khomeyniites in men and material. After carrying out their mission our aircraft returned safely protected by God.

2. Using artillery, tanks, and mortars from several positions in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah, our units dealt concentrated blows to selected enemy targets. They destroyed three infantry positions, killing all their personnel, one personnel bunker, killing everyone in it, a vehicle, damaged two vehicles, destroyed an observation post, killed three enemy personnel, and destroyed four infantry positions, a medium-caliber machine gun, and a firing position.

3. An enemy group attempted to approach our forward positions in the II Army Corps central sector. Our fighters confronted it with all types of weapons and forced it to flee after inflicting losses in men on it. Two enemy soldiers, two observation posts, and seven infantry positions were destroyed in the same sector.

4. Three enemy soldiers were killed and several infantry positions were destroyed in the VII Army Corps sector.

5. The Zionist Iranian regime shelled the city of Al-'Uzayr, the Mandali suburbs, and Biyarah with long-range artillery. The enemy shelling destroyed four houses in Al-'Uzayr.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 27 November 1986

Perez de Cuellar Gets Memo on Iranian Shelling

JN271122 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0800 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has received an Iraqi memorandum protesting Iran's firing of missiles on residential quarters in Baghdad, killing and wounding dozens of civilians. The memorandum, sent by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, to Perez de Cuellar, affirmed that the weapon used by Iran cannot discriminate and hence can only be used for deliberate, indiscriminate destruction against civilians and residential areas.

The Iraqi protest memorandum expressed Iraq's hope that the United Nations would effectively shoulder its responsibilities, in accordance with its Charter, to put an end to these aggressive Iranian crimes. The memorandum recalled Iraq's warnings about the consequences of Iran's persistence in shelling civilian residential quarters and Iran's repeated attempts to kindle the war in the cities.

The Iraqi Government also told the UN secretary general that Iran continues to shell civilian targets in Iraq. In a memorandum sent to the UN secretary general and distributed by the UN General Secretariat yesterday as an official UN Security Council document, 'Ismat Kittani, Iraq's permanent UN representative, said Iran shelled the city of Khanaqin with long-range artillery, wounding a number of civilians and demolishing and damaging several houses. In his protest memorandum, Iraq's UN representative said Iran also shelled residential quarters in Basra with long-range artillery, martyring a number of citizens and wounding others.

Planes Hit Khark Jetty, 'Large' Maritime Target

JN271839 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1825 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Nov (INA) — Iraqi Air Force planes have raided Khark Island's western oil loading jetty which the enemy was trying to repair, and reduced it to rubble.

In a statement to INA a short while ago, a military spokesman said that the Iraqi planes also raided a large maritime target near the Iranian coast and dealt it an accurate and effective hit. The spokesman added that after carrying out the two missions at 1830 [1530 GMT] today, the Iraqi planes returned safely to base.

AL-THAWRAH Views Attack on Larak Port

JN260851 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0725 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Nov (INA) — The newspaper *Al-Thawrah* has warned the Iranian rulers that the violent Iraqi blows will not end with the destruction of the Larak port. It says Iraq is determined to continue its blows and that it still has a great deal to do against important Iranian installations.

Under the headline "A Unique Operation and a Great Achievement," the newspaper, which is the organ of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, says: Any accurate examination of war developments will clearly show that the victory which Iraq decided in its favor long years ago is growing and getting greater. The defeated Iranian regime's impasse is getting worse and deeper and the balance of power in all the fields of conflict is still in Iraq's favor. It will continue to be so despite all which world Zionism has given to the Iranian rulers.

Al-Thawrah explains that the great military achievement made by the Iraqi forces' destruction of Larak port in the Hormuz Straits has broken the Iranian rulers' back and proved once again there is no target or position too deep in Iran to be safe from Iraqi blows.

Foreign Ministry Condemns UAE Oil Field Attack

JN261638 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1607 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Nov (INA) — A spokesman for the Iraqi Foreign Ministry has condemned the Iranian aggression on a UAE oil field yesterday. This aggression is considered a repetition of the aggression launched against this oil field on 16 October. In a statement issued here this evening, the Iraqi Foreign Ministry spokesman expressed Iraq's sympathy for and solidarity with the fraternal UAE in being exposed to aggression.

The Iraqi spokesman described this aggression as unjustified and said that it affirms the Iranian regime's collusion with Zionism in threatening security and stability in the Arab Gulf area and plotting against the Arab nation.

RCC, Ba'th Party on U.S.-Israel-Iran 'Scandals'

JN261453 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1300 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] The RCC and the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command held a joint session this morning under leader President Saddam Husayn.

In a statement to INA after the meeting, an official spokesman said that the RCC and the party Regional Command discussed two subjects during their meeting today: first, the latest reports on the scandals concerning cooperation among the Iranian regime, the Zionist entity, and the United States, and second, the continuous crimes by the Iranian regime, such as the shelling of Iraqi cities aimed at civilians and residential areas, including Baghdad.

The official spokesman said that during their discussion of the first subject, the RCC and the Regional Command recalled the assessments of the Iraqi leadership from the beginning that the Iranian regime had suspect ties with the Zionist entity and that the objectives of the two parties were aimed against the Arab nation.

The spokesman said that Iraq announced this fact from the beginning — since the suspect regime in Tehran began its campaigns against Iraq and its threats to Iraq and the Arab nation, that is, in 1979 and 1980. Iraq announced this also when the Iranian regime began its aggression against Iraq on 4 September 1980. The publicized scandals about the Israeli and U.S. arms deals with Iran and the contacts among them give an official and documented quality to a fact that has existed for years. The exposure of this fact in this documented and official manner as announced by the U.S. Administration in its recent statements and as officially admitted by the Zionist entity's government today reveals the reality of the suspect Iranian regime colluding with Zionism and imperialism against the Arab homeland, the Islamic world, and the entire world, particularly the forces struggling to achieve freedom and progress.

The exposure of these facts explains the Zionist and imperialist objectives of prolonging the war, the Iranian regime's insistence on continuing the war despite all the peace initiatives, and Iraq's honest stands to reach a just and honorable peace.

The spokesman said that these reports remind us of the agreement and cooperation between the Tehran and Tel Aviv regimes when they struck the Iraqi nuclear reactor that was used for peaceful purposes in June 1981.

Regarding our stand on the U.S. Administration's behavior, the official spokesman reiterated Iraq's stand as expressed in the official spokesman's statement on 15 November 1986.

Regarding the Iranian regime's crimes of bombing the Iraqi cities and threatening the purely residential areas and civilians, the official spokesman said that during their meeting today the RCC and the Regional Command emphasized their previous analysis that the Iranian regime was behaving desperately because of its war defeats and Iraq's great success in striking at the Iranian regime's military and economic targets. They stressed that the recent Iranian escalation of bombing Iraqi cities, including Baghdad, is an attempt by the Tehran rulers to kindle the war of the cities to distract attention from their big scandal of cooperation with Israel and preoccupy Iranian public opinion to keep the people from following up the details of this scandal and prevent them from questioning the regime's suspect relations with the Zionist entity and the United States — relations which were exposed in such a manner that the regime could no longer contain or conceal them.

The spokesman stressed that Iraq's ability to reply in kind, only much more forcefully, than the Iranian regime, is well known to all. However, the RCC and the Regional Command stressed that they will not give the Iranian regime any chance to achieve its suspect aims from its criminal methods because it is essential that the Iranian regime's vile methods, dirty scandals, and aims which are linked to Zionism and imperialism be further exposed to the Iranian people and the whole world so that the end of this suspect regime will draw nearer, God willing. The official spokesman stressed that Iraq reserves the right to reply to the Tehran rulers' crimes in the appropriate manner and at the proper time.

[Dated] 26 November 1986

AL-THAWRAH Reacts to Shamir 'Admission' on Arms

JN271332 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1010 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Nov (INA) — The Iraqi newspaper *Al-Thawrah* has said that Zionist enemy Prime Minister Shamir's admission about extending arms to Iran explains the Zionist-imperialist objectives behind the perpetuation of the war and the Iranian regime's insistence on its continuation.

In its editorial today entitled "What After Admission," the paper, the mouthpiece of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, asserted that Shamir's statements revealed to everyone that the Iranian and Zionist aggressions against the Arab nation are two faces of the same conspiratorial scheme. Moreover, these statements merely bestowed an official nature and stand on a reality that has existed for years.

The paper added that the Iraqi leadership knew from the very beginning that the Iranian regime had suspect links with the Zionist entity and continually warned of the need to realize the dangers posed to the Arab homeland by the Khomeyniite-Zionist alliance. The paper said: We were absolutely certain about this matter even before Shamir admitted that Israel supplied Khomeyni's Iran with arms. Moreover, Israel extended other forms of direct military aid to Iran and numerous irrefutable pieces of evidence have been revealed on the international level proving that the Khomeyni regime has received Zionist arms shipments since the beginning of the war and until now. The paper added that Shamir's admission today widely exposes the truth about the suspect Iranian regime which is colluding with Zionism and imperialism against the Arab homeland and the Islamic world. Moreover, Shamir's admission adds to tangible pieces of evidence that Iran's rulers are not only charlatans and jugglers but are also hypocrites who boast of and trade with false slogans.

Concluding, the paper said the Iranian regime, which deals and cooperates on a large scale with Zionism and world imperialism, can only be an enemy of the Arab nation and of the causes of its struggle and can never be an ally of the Arabs or play a strategic role in their struggle, as some of those with Arab identity seek to depict.

'Direct' Iran-Israel Cooperation Seen

JN280900 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0730 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Nov (INA) — The newspaper *Al-Jumhuriyah* has affirmed that cooperation between the Iranian rulers and the Zionist entity is no accident, but is, rather, a continuous relationship with successive deals which began since the first days of the war and has continued until now.

In an editorial today, the paper says this cooperation is taking place with full knowledge of the Iranian regime and with the approval of all its leaders, headed by Khomeyni. This cooperation, the paper adds, is not taking place through a third party acting as mediator between the Zionist entity and the Iranian regime, but is a direct cooperation between them.

Al-Jumhuriyah adds it is the Zionist entity which acts as mediator between the Iranian regime and any third party seeking to cooperate with Iran, as happened in the U.S.-Zionist deal. The paper also says that the supply of arms to Iran is no longer done through crooked, intricate ways and via airports and ports of other countries, but is taking place directly between Elat and Bandar-e 'Abbas ports.

President Saddam Husayn Receives Yasir 'Arafat

JN271408 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1300 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] President Saddam Husayn has received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. He was briefed on the recent developments in Lebanon, the repeated attacks of the Iranian regime's agents and the Zionist entity's allies against the Palestinian camps, and the consequent killing of the sons of the Palestinian people.

President Saddam Husayn expressed Iraq's denunciation of these crimes which coincide with the Iranian regime's crimes and aggression against Iraq and the Arab Gulf region. He also expressed Iraq's solidarity with its Palestinian brothers regarding the aggressions against them.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed the recent developments in the scandal involving the relations among the Iranian regime, the Zionist entity, and the United States. They also reviewed what the Palestinian people are being exposed to in Lebanon and discussed the Arab situation in general.

Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, attended the meeting.

'Arafat Gives News Conference

JN271711 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Nov (INA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has urged the Syrian and Libyan regimes to break their silence after the relations among the Iranian regime, the Zionist entity, and the United States have been revealed.

'Arafat, who was speaking at a news conference here today, wondered about these regimes' silence on this issue. He pointed out that the regimes of Al-Asad and Al-Qadhdhafi are the ones who speak the most about Arabism and fateful issues, and wondered what they will say after the revelations about relations among Tehran, Tel Aviv, and Washington.

The PLO Executive Committee chairman expressed appreciation for Iraq's support for the Palestinian people's struggle. He said that Iraq has placed and is continuing to place all its potential at the disposal of the PLO although it is having to face a fierce Zionist-imperialist-Iranian aggression.

'Arafat spoke about the aggression against the Palestinian resistance factions in southern Lebanon. He said that this aggression by the Israeli forces, the agent Amal gangs, and the Syrian regime's intelligence could be the beginning of a large-scale aggression against the Palestinian forces in southern Lebanon.

Peshmergas Claim Control of Zakhu District

NC281031 Istanbul TERCUMAN in Turkish 24 Nov 86 p 9

[Text] Diyarbakir, (Tercuman) — A steady escalation has been reported in the clashes taking place in northern Iraq between the

Iraqi Armed Forces and the Kurdish Peshmergas. Reports also indicate that the Zakhu District in northern Iraq, which is only 3 km from the Turkish border, has been captured by the Peshmergas.

In a report aired yesterday morning, the clandestine radio called the "Voice of Kurdistan," which can be monitored from Turkey's border regions, said that the Peshmergas had established superiority in the week-long clashes in the region and brought the Zakhu District under their control. The radio also reported that 20 Iraqi troops were killed in a single day. However, it declined to give figures on the Peshmergas' casualties.

The clandestine radio claimed that the Peshmergas had established control of the transit highway that runs through Zakhu District and killed 150 Iraqi troops during the week's clashes. It also claimed that an ammunition depot near the town of Zakhu had been destroyed.

Contrary to the claims put forward by the Kurdish Peshmergas, traffic at the Habur border crossing has not been disrupted. However, TIR [Transit Highway International] drivers arriving from Iraq have said that violent clashes were taking place in the Zakhu region.

Albania's Alia Congratulated on National Day

JN271128 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0840 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Nov (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has sent a congratulatory cable to Ramiz Alia, chairman of the Presidium of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, on his country's national day. The congratulatory cable reads: On the occasion of your country's national day, we are pleased to send to your excellency, on behalf of Iraq and in our own name, our congratulations wishing you good health and happiness and your people further progress and prosperity.

Saddam Husayn Receives Saudi Envoy, Message

JN271818 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1710 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Nov (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has received Saudi Ambassador in Baghdad Tirad 'Abdallah al-Harithi who conveyed a verbal message to President Saddam Husayn from his brother Saudi King Fahd. The message deals with relations between the two fraternal countries.

Ramadan Leaves for Official Visit to CSSR

JN271425 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1300 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, left Baghdad today for Prague on an official visit of several days to the CSSR.

In a statement to INA, Ramadan said that he will hold talks with CSSR officials on economic, trade, and industrial relations between the two countries.

This visit is taking place at the invitation of CSSR Premier Lubomir Strougal and is aimed at promoting bilateral cooperation in the economic, trade, technical, and scientific fields. The Iraqi delegation comprises Subhi Yasin, minister of industry and minerals and head of the Iraqi side to the CSSR-Iraqi joint committee for economic, technical, and scientific cooperation, and the committee members.

Press Condemns U.S. Arms Supplies to Iran

U.S. Blamed For Raid on UAE

JN261121 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 26 Nov 86 pp 1, 21

[Editorial: "The Deal and Its Dangerous Repercussions"]

[Text] The dangerous consequences of the U.S. arms deal with Tehran on the Gulf and the region are being revealed day after day. The Iranian missile attack yesterday on the UAE Abu al-Bukhush oil installations and its implication that the war is expanding represent an early result of this deal, although its executors in Washington claimed it would help bring about a peaceful solution to the Iraq-Iran war, which has been raging for over 6 years.

Instead of resorting to peace and negotiations to end the bloodshed, the rulers of Tehran are escalating their aggression against the fraternal people of Iraq and are directing their attacks against innocent civilians and civilian installations far from the front in an extremely savage way.

Undoubtedly, the recently disclosed reports on the weapons and hardware flowing into Iran from U.S. and other sources are a direct instigation for the rulers of Tehran to escalate their aggression against the courageous people and to expand this aggression to include other parts of the Arabian Gulf.

From this premise, we regard Iran's escalation against the Iraqi people, land, and entity a natural outcome of the policy adopted by the U.S. government to appease the rulers of a country branded by certain U.S. public opinion circles as a terrorist country and a source of world terrorism.

Therefore, while confident that the courage of the Iraqis and their high state of alertness will prevent the Tehran rulers from attaining any gains as a result of the recent flow of military hardware and weapons to them, we ask that the United States do whatever it can to correct its fatal mistake of supplying the Iranians with what enables them to perpetuate and prolong the war. This matter contravenes the declared U.S. commitments and the responsibilities of a superpower like the United States, which should preserve security and peace in the region rather than fan the war in the Gulf region and other parts of the world.

Poindexter 'Sacrifice' Viewed

JN261332 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 26 Nov 86 pp 1, 17

[Editorial: "The Star and Maintaining a Minimum Relationship"]

[Text] When the Watergate scandal shook the U.S. White House, President Nixon could neither contain it nor control the scandal's dimensions, although he — as we know — was an outstanding U.S. lawyer and a prominent spokesman of the principle of controlling issues — whether domestic or foreign — through predefined ideas. Therefore, Nixon was the only one who paid the price of the scandal that led to his denunciation. It seems that Nixon's failure to evade the charges leveled at him allowed President Reagan to benefit from this by leveling charges regarding the U.S.-Iranian scandal at some of those who work with him to avoid getting himself burned by the "burning" fire of the scandal.

Poindexter's dismissal was expected after the scandal became an official and even public priority. Poindexter is believed to be a carefully chosen sacrifice for the master of the White House. Others believe the United States decided — through one of the most important engineers of its policy — not to repeat the outcome of the "Watergate" scandal, which resulted in the dismissal of the president from his post.

Poindexter packed his bags about a week ago after being told about the decision taken by the engineers of U.S. policy with regard to public needs, national principles, and the need to avoid shaking the White House. Maintaining President Reagan in his post implies maintaining U.S. prestige and the dignity of the officials in the eyes of the U.S. people.

The U.S. people, who look in private and in public for a star that brightens their life, will resort to "revenge" if this star does not continue its permanent glittering. That is why it was decided to keep the star of President Reagan in the U.S. sky after its rays were partially blocked by starlets that were found later to be a Khomeyni-Israeli shadow that sneaked into the White House. Poindexter was another shadow that was removed from the way of the greater star. This cannot be attributed to fear of the "Khomeyni shade" but to preserving its own internal and external glittering.

Although Nixon could not escape the grip of the first scandal; Reagan seems to have succeeded in containing the tempest that could have undermined his presidential post. He succeeded at the last moment in controlling the situation between Tehran and Washington when he stopped the U.S. Hercules plane deal yesterday. But, will Reagan be able to maintain a minimum level of relationship?

Arms Part of 'Evil Schemes'

JN270840 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 27 Nov 86 pp 1, 20

[Editorial: "The Plot of Settling Accounts With Arab Oil"]

[Text] The United States cannot wash its hands of the blood of the scores of victims of the Iranian missile that hit Baghdad yesterday. The United States can never claim to be totally divorced from the expansion of the Iraqi-Iranian war on which Iran embarked on the day before yesterday by bombing the Abu al-Bukhush oilfield in the UAE.

These two serious incidents are among the results of the United States' fanning of the flames of the war, regardless of the source of the missile or the place it was manufactured and regardless of the casualties of the Iranian attack on the UAE oilfield.

The U.S. arming of Iran has been and continues to be the green light the United States has given to Iran to escalate and expand the war and multiply its victims and woes. Such unethical encouragement has led to the serious developments that have occurred so far. These signs indicate that the objectives of the U.S. involvement in the Iraqi-Iranian war go far beyond the release of American hostages held in Lebanon and that these objectives include dividing control over the Gulf region, separating it from the Arab body, changing the map of the area, and depriving the Arab nation of its principal source of energy.

Such a deliberate involvement represents the malicious U.S. response to the Arab oil weapon, which upset the balance in 1973. The aim appears to be clear now; namely, to totally deprive Arabs of the oil weapon by controlling its sources. The Iraqi- Iranian war is the means chosen by the U.S. Government to achieve its evil objective.

In light of such a picture the magnitude of the plot becomes clear. Thus, it is clear that the decision to send U.S. arms to Iran was not accidental but an essential part of U.S. strategy in the area and a translation of the intentions it harbors against the Arabs.

Therefore, there is a need for better Arab understanding of the plot and for tackling the situation in a manner that does not discount the U.S. role and its aims and does not ignore the trap set for Arabs by the plot's planners and executors. All this requires a clear Arab view of what must be done and a commitment to organized and unified action to stave off the threat to all Arabs and to foil the evil schemes designed to exercise hegemony over the Gulf region, change the balance in the region, and settle accounts with Arab oil.

AL-DUSTUR Analyzes Israeli Role

JN270941 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 27 Nov 86 pp 1, 21

[Editorial: "Israel in the Devil's Role"]

[Text] Following Israel's deafening silence in the past few days on what was being broadcast and published by U.S. sources on the Israeli role in the secret arms deal with Iran, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's admission that Israel shipped U.S. arms to Iran at Washington's request reveals the dirtiest role that can be played by an arms broker in modern times.

Israel was not content with transporting U.S. arms to Iran — with all the destruction it entails for the Gulf region and the fanning of the flames of the war — or with carrying out a simple mediation role between Tehran and Washington, but has also, with the admission of U.S. officials, conveyed the money received from these weapons from Tehran to the contras fighting the Nicaraguan Government, which is a violation of U.S. law and an attempt to deceive the U.S. Congress.

In view of such a role — which some Israeli papers described as more akin to the role of the devil than to the role of an arms merchant — there is no longer any doubt about Israel's direct involvement in a war that is exhausting the resources of Iraq and Iran, particularly as the official Israeli admission, which has come several years late, was made by the Israeli prime minister, who was compelled to publicly admit Israel was playing such a dirty role.

Consequently, following the revelation of all these exciting details about the Iranian-U.S.-Israeli relationship, Arabs cannot continue to maintain their present stance of ignoring the situation or pretending not to know about it, as though the Israeli role were merely an illusion not requiring a reconsideration of their traditional stands in light of the fact Israel has become a direct party in the war against Iraq.

While we firmly believe that the dirty Israeli role in the Iraqi-Iranian war accompanied all the developments of the war throughout the past years and that its exposure in this manner does not astonish or surprise us, we hope the events being revealed in both the United States and Israel will persuade all Arabs that Iraq is fighting a legitimate defensive war and that its valiant stand deserves Arab support and backing.

Dubin Calls for Action To Stop Jerusalem Unrest

JN261855 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Amman — Occupied Territories Affairs Minister Marwan Dudin has stated the following:

The government is following the current spiteful aggressions being committed by Jewish settlers against our citizens in holy Jerusalem with great concern. These settlers attack peaceful citizens, damage their property, storm their houses, provoke them, beat them, and terrorize them by chanting racist and threatening slogans during demonstrations staged by several groups of these Jewish settlers in front of the Israeli occupation authorities.

Although the current incidents in Jerusalem are part of our people's sufferings in the occupied land and part of the threats and repression against our people as a result of the occupation authorities' disregard for these Jewish settlers' unjust practices; and although these authorities permit the settlers to act in accordance with their whims and support these fanatic groups' ideas, which call for the occupation of all the Arab lands and the expulsion of the Arab Palestinian inhabitants to replace them with Jewish settlers, the current large-scale incidents in holy Jerusalam are serious, especially since they shock every Arab and Muslim and harm their dignity in one of their holiest shrines.

In light of this deteriorating situation, we urge the international community to shoulder its responsibilities and take serious steps to stop these aggressive actions by the Jewish settlers, who storm houses, humiliate peaceful citizens, and commit aggressions against their lives and property in holy Jerusalem. The government has begun to hold contacts with the fraternal and friendly countries as well as with the Arab and international bodies to explain the dimensions of these painful incidents in Jerusalem, to show their danger, and to exert every effort to confront them with full strength and resolve.

Israeli Planes Raid Areas Near Sidon 27 Nov

NC271440 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1400 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Israeli warplanes, flying consecutive missions, raided the areas of 'Ayn al-Dilb, Al-Qurayyah, Al-Miyah Wa Miyah, Jabal al-Lawz, and the building housing the Palestinian radio station east of Sidon at 1415 this afternoon. The warplanes met intensive antiaircraft fire. Two Palestinians were wounded and transferred to the Hammud Hospital in Sidon.

This afternoon, a military spokesman for the martyr Ma'ruf Sa'd Forces of the Popular Liberation Army declared that artillery emplacements belonging to the Zionist enemy and his agents in Jabal Safi have been shelling the army's positions in Lib'a, 'Ayn al-Mir, and Al-Salhiyah since this morning. These emplacements are also firing indiscriminately at areas where clashes are taking place between Palestinians and Amal members in an attempt to intensify the fighting. Seven Israeli naval units have been cruising off the Sidon coast since 1100.

Amal Claims To Be Target

NC271408 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1328 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Information about the Israeli air strike against Sidon has now been pieced together. An Amal security source has issued a statement, saying: At a time when Amal Movement fighters have recaptured their positions in Maghdushah and thwarted the plot to turn the south into a new passageway for aggression, Israel, in an attempt to utilize its tools to ignite disputes and in harmony with the pro-'Arafat scheme, used its aircraft to strafe Amal positions. Our fighters engaged the enemy aircraft with the appropriate weapons and prevented them from realizing their objectives.

The source added: It is not surprising for the Israeli aircraft to carry out mock raids against Palestinian positions at the same time. Such raids have been previously agreed upon by the two sides. The source affirmed: We have issued repeated warnings against this plot and its expansion out of a desire to rob Israel of an excuse to exploit bleeding wounds. But these capitulationist rifles, defeated without fighting Israel, are now inviting this country to return anew and destroy the resisting rifles. This would enable the isolationists to work out an agreement worse than that of 17 May.

The Israeli jets also strafed Amal positions in Maghdushah and Al-Ghaziyah, leaving two fighters dead and five others wounded.

Israelis Reinforce Positions

NC280825 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Excerpt] The Israeli enemy expanded his acts of aggression on Lebanese territory yesterday, raiding areas east of Sidon while the Amal Movement's fighters were confronting Palestinian attempts to expand outside their camps in Sidon. [passage omitted]

It has been reported that some 25 people were killed or wounded in the raid. The Israeli aircraft dropped time bombs that detonated 15 minutes after they landed.

This Israeli aggression was accompanied by an increase in Israeli concentrations inside the occupied area, particularly in eastern Al-Biqa', where intensive Israeli military movements have taken place. It has been reported that the occupation forces have strengthened their infantry and mechanized units in positions on the frontline from Kafr Huna in the west to Tillal al-Dahr in the east. The new forces brought to these positions came via the road through Al-Mtullah, the Al-Dardarah plain, the Ibil al-Saqy plain, and the Burghuz triangle under a stringent security escort.

According to security reports from the occupied area, the positions held by the [Lahd] militia have been reinforced with both vehicles and men, especially in the Al-Surayrah triangle and Burhuz. The occupation forces and Lahd's militia have taken strict security measures in the last few hours at the crossing point in Tallat Zumrayya, in the area of Hasbayya. Israeli intelligence men and Lahd militiamen are searching all cars heading towards the occupied territory. The Israelis have placed concrete barriers and barbed wire in the middle of the road and established earth barricades around the checkpoints.

Caller Claims 6 Israelis Killed by Bomb

NC281234 Paris AFP in English 1227 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Beirut, Nov 28 (AFP) — Six Israeli soldiers were killed and three others were wounded in a bomb attack in the Israeli "security zone" in southern Lebanon early Friday, a spokesman purporting to be from a fundamentalist group said in a call here.

A telephone caller to *Agence France-Presse*, saying he represented the "Islamic Resistance," said its members had set off a bomb as an Israeli patrol passed on a road near Marj 'Uyun, the headquarters of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia. A tank and troop transporter were destroyed, the caller added.

There has been no independent confirmation of the report.

Junblatt Holds News Conference on Camps War

NC261550 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1236 GMT 26 Nov 86

[News conference by Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt at his home in Beirut on 26 November — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Junblatt] Let us discuss the crux of the camps war issue, or rather, the current situation resulting from the camps war. We will say this once and for all and we will say it clearly and frankly: We respect the rights of the Palestinians living in Lebanon, and we believe all civil rights should be extended to them except, of course, the right to citizenship, which would be a serious matter and would involve us in the settlement issue. Meanwhile, Lebanese laws should apply to the Palestinians, and the Palestinians are asked to respect Lebanese laws.

As for the Palestinian rifle, we do not now and never will deny that the Palestinian rifle deserves credit for fighting Israel and the Lebanese Phalangists and for supporting the Lebanese national cause. However, we demand, and it is our right as Lebanese nationalist forces to do so, that the Palestinian organizations define the role of the Palestinian rifle in Lebanon at the present time. Let us address this issue. Let us discuss this matter objectively with all the organizations concerned. We must know the use to which this rifle is to be put, its role in the south and elsewhere, and its place in a unified Arab strategy. The place to make this decisions should be Damascus.

If the Cairo Agreement is useful, then let us — we, Nabih Birri, and the Palestinians — all agree. And if the Cairo Agreement is no longer of any value, then let us abolish or amend it and proceed to draw up a new agreement. However, we must abandon one-upmanship. The events that have occurred in East Sidon, Maghdushah, Al-Shawakir, and Burj al-Barajinah, when two comrades from the Amal Movement were killed, are grave and regrettable. If the war were to continue, especially in the south, they could draw us into a new 17 May agreement or something even worse. This could — indeed, would — give Israel an excuse to invade the south once again. We support the implementation of the Damascus agreements in Al-Rashidiyah, Burj al-Barajinah, and Sidon. We are opposed to Palestinian expansion at any price. We support the definition of the Palestinian rifle's role in Lebanon. If the conflict continues like this, it will be destructive for all of us. The use of Maghdushah as a bargaining chip in a dialogue in Moscow — and a dialogue is taking place in Moscow — so the positions of some of the parties to this dialogue may be strengthened must be rejected outright. We say no to one-upmanship on Lebanese soil. This represents a general assessment of the issue of the Palestinian war, the camps war. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] Concerning the camps war, is there any development [words indistinct)?

[Junblatt] I have indicated broad outlines. If the Cairo Agreement is still appropriate, we have no objection, provided there is agreement among the Lebanese, the nationalist forces, the Palestinians, and the Syrians. And if the Cairo Agreement is to be amended or abolished, we will be ready. On this occasion let me remind you that the Cairo Agreement was signed by a representative of the Phalangists, perhaps Pierre al-Jumayyil or one of his associates. Perhaps Raymond Iddah was the only person who could take a long-term view.

[Correspondent] [Question indistinct]

[Junblatt] I am just giving broad outlines. However, if this war continues it will be destructive to all.

[Correspondent] [Question indistinct]

[Junblatt] We are against the expansion on the political level, and I hope they will not force us to be militarily opposed to it as well. We are politically opposed to the expansion, and if we are forced or if they continue to pressure us we will intervene militarily. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] The regime claims that the economic situation can only be solved through the Council of Ministers.

[Junblatt] This is political blackmail. We know what their game is. They want us to go up there to Ba'abda for a meeting. We will not go. I will never go there, not in a 1,000 years. We have tried Amin al-Jumayyil in the past, and he is not interested in giving up (?this post). What is really dangerous is the question of the renewal of his term of office. This person is thinking of renewing it. This will leave us trapped, as happened in the case of [former president] Sham'un, but this time it would be even more serious.

[Correspondent] [Question indistinct]

[Junblatt] We support the dialogue if it leads to positive results. It was not the nationalist team that obstructed the dialogue.

[Correspondent] Some parties have said a draft solution for the camps war has been agreed upon in Damascus. Is this true?

[Junblatt] We discussed the matter in general terms in Damascus, but then certain positions became clear. We were meeting with members of the Palestinian National Salvation Front [PSNF] when the shelling of the southern suburb of Beirut from the mountain began. This was deplorable and pointless. I was forced to confiscate some Palestinian weapons, and I hope the brothers will not put me into the position of having to take further measures.

[Correspondent] What is required of the PNSF?

[Junblatt] A clear-cut and positive political stand condemning 'Arafat's position and the Palestinian expansion into both Sidon and Beirut. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] Regarding the ongoing meetings in Damascus [words indistinct].

[Junblatt] The meetings are continuing, and I hope the conferees can quickly reach decisions so that Palestinian and Lebanese blood may be spared and so that we can confront Israel in the south and the Phalangists in the north.

[Correspondent] Who is responsible for the failure to reach a solution to the camps war?

[Junblatt] I have said previously that there had been a degree of one-upmanship during the dialogue in Moscow between Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] and Dr George Habash. We respect Dr Habash's opinion, though we sometimes disagree with him. I remember that Kamal Junblatt was the first to condemn hijackings in 1969 and 1970. Some of the parties to the dialogue in Moscow, in order to stregthen their position therein, instigated the situation in Maghdushah. This is unnecessary, and I really do not see the connection. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] You were the first to say there would be no solution so long as this regime remains in power. Do you still believe this?

[Junblatt] I was the first to say this, prior to the Lausanne conference, I think. At the time I said that Amin al-Jumayyil must first be removed if we were to reach a nationalist solution in Lebanon. They did not believe me, and instead of removing al-Jumayyil, we became his ministers. Unfortunately. I repeat this premise again now, and I will continue to repeat it.

[Correspondent] Walid Bey, one would get the impression that you have given up hope, but are there certain measures that must be taken to coordinate at the nationalist level?

[Junblatt] I set policies, and the nationalist arena is there for all. I have no problem with Nabih Birri; I am addressing the Islamic grouping; and I have no problem with the [nationalist] parties. The only point of weakness is the Palestinian issue. To overcome this impasse the Palestinian brothers must come to discuss this issue, for the sake of Palestinian and Lebanese interests. I see no benefit from this war. Israel is waiting; all it needs is an excuse and it will invade. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] [Question indistinct]

[Junblatt] If my friend Comrade Nabih Birri approves of a civilian administration in Beirut, I have no objection. But he has to approve it first.

[Correspondent] Just Beirut, or all areas?

[Junblatt] I had Beirut, the mountain, and Sidon in mind. They are inseparable. If he approves, I have no objection. But this issue must be studied first. [passage omitted]

Sa'adah Discusses Party, Relations With Syria

JN270658 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1800 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Interview with Phalangist Party leader George Sa'adah by Radio Monte Carlo correspondent Rawwad Tarabayy in Paris — date not given]

[Text] [Tarabayy] Dr George Sa'adah, today marks the 50th anniversary of the Phalangist Party with the absence of founder Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil. Where does the party stand today in the absence of its founder and under your chairmanship?

[Sa'adah] This question does not surprise me because it is raised even by some Phalangist cadres. Some people believe Pierre al-Jumayyil, who embodied the Phalangist Party throughout its stgruggle, established this party for himself only. Others also believed the party would end with the death of Pierre al-Jumayyil. Time proved this question was mere imagination. The Phalangist Party has passed through stages, and Pierre al-Jumayyil, who, as I have said, embodied the party's struggle for 48 years, worked for the continuation of this party. The party passed a democratic test during the recent elections, which resulted in the victory of a new leadership. The Phalangist Party today will return to its roots.

[Tarabayy] Dr Sa'adah, what is the Phalangist Party's plan for solving the political, social, and economic crisis in Lebanon?

[Sa'adah] The Phalangist Party was established to represent the people's conscience. The history of this party shows it rebelled against what might harm the people's interests. The Party called for many strikes because the price of electricity was raised and the price of bread was changed. When the price of ice was raised in the past, the Phalangists went into the streets and sold ice.

Today we are facing a strangling economic crisis and the party should act. It has acted and formed many committees to tackle the issue of high prices, as well as economic and social issues in general. We formed a committee to solve the problem of education costs; another committee to solve the problem of costs of medication and hospitalization; another committee to solve the problem of housing; and another committee to solve the problem of food prices. In forming each committee, we sought help from the public and from private experts, particularly from general trade unions.

In our recent conference held in [words indistinct], we devoted a session to discussing economic, financial, and social issues. The conference issued resolutions that we will implement. We do not have the power, but we can discuss issues, make suggestions, and use legitimate pressures to carry out what we have decided.

[Tarabayy] But Dr Sa'adah, you are a ruling party. Do you not think so?

[Sa'adah] There is a difference between the Phalangist Party, as a ruling party, and a Phalangist, as a ruler. The system followed in Lebanon is not a party system. In some countries it is the party which achieves power, but in Lebanon a party member achieves power, not the party itself.

[Tarabayy] Dr Sa'adah, Syrian-Lebanese relations remain the focus of talks, particularly in the Phalangist Party. How do you view future relations in light of the recent resolutions of the party conference?

[Sa'adah] The recent resolutions adopted by the party conference regarding this and other issues were clear and frank. Since its establishment in 1936, the Phalangist Party has called for creating relations between Lebanon and Arab countries, particularly Syria. As of 1974, when the General Secretariat for Arab Affairs was established, we moved toward Arab countries and our first visit was to Syria. Many meetings were then held with senior Syrian officials. These relations sometimes faced crises, but they never ceased.

The issue presented today is the issue of distinguished relations between Lebanon and Syria. In a previous statement, I said: I do not pause at words and expressions, but at the content. Some Lebanese call for distinguished relations with Syria. They know that this term was mentioned in the tripartite agreement. The group which rejects distinguished relations with Syria does not reject excellent, neighborly, and friendly relations. When there is an emphasis on this expression, in particular, this means what is presented is distinguished relations as defined in the tripartite agreement.

What is required, and what we have recently decided, is that there should be relations between Lebanon and Syria, but we have to differentiate between relations of friendship and good-neighborliness and the presence of hegemony. Our recent decision was that there should be relations between Lebanon and Syria — relations which must be defined through contacts between the two states, not between a state and a group of people. The contacts must be held between the two states to maintain Lebanon's independence, sovereignty, and dignity, as well as the common interests of both states.

Amal's 'Akif Haydar Holds News Conference

NC261513 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] At a news conference this afternoon, Colonel 'Akif Haydar, deputy leader of the Amal Movement, asserted that the Amal Movement has adhered and still adheres to the Damascus Agreement on the Palestinian camps. However, it is the Palestinians who have violated this agreement by deploying outside their camps and opening up new military fronts. The fighting in Maghdushah, Sabra, Shatila, and Burj al-Barajinah indicates that the Palestinians are determined to impose a military and political status that has no connection, either directly or indirectly, with the situation at the Al-Rashidiyah camp. The Palestinians want to settle in Lebanon for good. According to the least harmful scenario, they aim to control Lebanese politics and the resistance's road to the south.

Col Haydar described what is happening as an attempt to take the Palestinian political will out of its deep freeze and have it replace Lebanese national will, controlling it as happened before 1982.

Col Haydar said: The southern suburb [of Beirut] and southern Lebanon are under military and economic siege. The real siege is against our people, not against the Palestinian camps. He added: The Amal Movement considers the Palestinians, in all their factions, one entity.

Col Haydar called on the Palestinians to withdraw to the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp immediately and without preconditions. He also called on them to hand over the murderers and criminals of the Al-Shawakir and Burj al-Barajinah operations and those who assassinated prisoners of war in Maghdushah. Afterward, agreements can be implemented, he said, and we can consider with Islamic and national forces ways to ensure the safety of the camps, our people, and, more importantly, the national resistance.

Col Haydar praised the stand declared by Minister Walid Junblatt at his news conference. He said it is also the Amal Movement's stand.

Regarding the military situation, he explained that three-quarters of Maghdushah is under the control of the Amal Movement and the other quarter under the Palestinians, with battles still raging.

Black September Warns Against Invasion of Camps

NC270722 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] The Black September organization issued a warning this morning against any invasion of the Palestinian camps in Lebanon. A spokesman for the organization said the fate of anyone who carries out such an invasion will be similar to that of Wasfi al-Tall [Jordanian prime minister assassinated in Cairo in 1971]. The organization also addressed a warning to [Syrian Vice President] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

New Group Attacks Amal, 6th Brigade in Beirut

NC272049 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Gunmen riding in a Mercedes have fired rockets at a position held by Amal and 6th Brigade personnel in Tallat al-Khayyat near the Channel 7 television building. The rockets caused great material damage.

An anonymous caller phoned us at 2000 and claimed to speak on behalf of the Sacred Revenge Organization [Munazzamat al-Tha'r al-Muqaddas], claiming that organization's responsibility for the firing on the Amal and 6th Brigade position. The caller said: This operations is in retaliation for the violation of the sanctity of Muslims' homes and the siege of the Palestinians by Amal and the 6th Brigade, with Syrian assistance.

Syrian Trucks, Tanks Seen in Druze Mountain Area

NC271758 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] According to information available to Voice of Lebanon, 70 Syrian trucks and tanks have been seen parked between Dayr al-Qamar and 'Ayn Darah, awaiting orders.

Libya's Jallud in Damascus for Meetings

Talks With Ba'th Official

JN262054 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th party, received Brother 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of Libya's 1 September Revolution Command, this evening. During the meeting, the talks revolved around the most important developments in the Arab arena and issues of common interest to both countries.The talks also dealt with the Arab revolutionary forces' role and responsibilities in confronting the imperialist-Zionist scheme led by the United States to strike at Syria and destroy its steadfastness as a base for the Arab struggle against attempts to impose capitulation on the Arab nation and to liquidate the central Arab question. The talks also dealt with the importance of enhancing the resources of those forces and the abilitiy of the Arab masses to thwart that scheme and to foil Britain's current campaign against Syria and the Arab masses throughout the Arab world.

Agreement on Lebanon Reached

LD262208 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 26

[Text] JANA has learned that an agreement was reached in Damascus today between the Palestinian organizations and the Lebanese nationalist forces on carrying out a simultaneous withdrawal from the strategic town of Maghdushah, which overlooks the Palestinian camp Ayn al-Hulwah in southern Lebanon and which has witnessed over the past 2 days fierce battles between the gangs of the Shi'ite despair movement and the defenders of the Palestinian camp. This agreement represents the most prominent result of the intensive contacts betweenStaff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud and Syrian vice president, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam with the various organizations of the Palestinian and Lebanese forces over the past 2 days. JANA has also learned that agreement was reached at these meetings on lifting the siege on the Burj al-Barajinah and Shatila Palestinian camps south of the Lebanese capital, Beirut. Staff Maj 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud also met Brother 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party in the Syrian Arab Republic today in Damascus.

Chairs Pan-Arab Command Meeting

LD272058 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] The General Secretariat of the Pan-Arab Command of the Arab Revolutionary Forces held an emergency meeting this morning under the chairmanship of Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud, the secretary general. The secretariat devotes itself to the study of the imperialist aggression staged by the imperialist and Zionist circles against fraternal Syria in preparation for military aggression against it.

The secretariat is studying practical measures for replying to the repeated aggressions aimed at the existence of the Arab nation, such as the aggression against the Great Jamahiriyah, as the Arab nations stood watching.

Staff Maj 'Abd al-Salam Jallud spoke at the beginning of the meeting about the imperialist conspiracy to which Syria is subjected and which presently is taking the form of political, economic, and psychological attack. He pointed out that the cause of this attack is not the allegation of terrorism, but is Syria's steadfastness in the face of imperialist plans to force Arab capitulation. The attack is also due to Syria's being the fundamental material base for the legitimate Arab struggle for regaining usurped rights and the liberation of the occupied land.

He stressed that the enemies — at the forefront of which is the United States — are not aiming only at Libya or Syria, as Arab reactionaries who are naive and who look only at appearances may think, but they also seek the physical liquidation of the Arab nation country by country.

He pointed out the reactionaries' as well as capitulationists' cries of wolf in the Arab homeland regarding what they call the United States credibility being lost and the dangers this fact might create vis-a-vis Arab trust in the United States. He added that the aforementioned people do not talk about such credibility and trust when it comes to the strategic alliance between the United States and the Zionist enemy, as well as the latter's participation in the Star Wars program, the barbarous and wanton aggression against the Great Jamahiriyah, the destruction of Lebanon, the raid on Tunis, and the destruction of the Iraqi nuclear reactor — as if all that is not enough to mar what they call the United States credibility and what they have termed as Arab trust in the United States.

Staff Maj Brother Jallud warned that the deteriorating Arab reality compels the dynamic forces of the Arab nation to rise to the occasion and prove equal to the task. He described the birth of the Pan-Arab Command of the Arab Forces as an historical shift that must be built upon scientific and revolutionary bases in order to transform our practices and develop our capabilities until we triumph over our enemies.

He pointed out that the pan-Arab uprising, which was manifested in Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, and Sudan, needs such a pan-Arab action, which might begin small and then grow bigger and bigger like all other movements that have changed the course of history. We are therfore obligated to prevent such an uprising from being usurped or distorted.

He concluded by pointing out that the Arab struggling masses confronting the Zionist enemy have acquired immunity and sturdiness to confront any aggression that imperialism might launch against Syria.

Saudi Interior Minister Arrives in Damascus

JN261818 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and his delegation arrived in Damascus this afternoon on a visit to Syria that will last several days. Interior Minister Muhammad Ghabbash and the Saudi ambassador and embassy staff headed those who received the Saudi minister at Damascus International Airport.

Prince Nayif made a statement to the SANA correspondent in which he greeted President al-Asad and the fraternal Syrian Arab people, emphasizing the sincerest fraternal feelings of the Saudi king, government, and people for the Syrian president, government, and people.

Prince Nayif pointed out that this visit is taking place at the invitation of Interior Minister Muhammad Ghabbash and added that it will give him the chance to hold talks on joint Arab security, especially since this visit is taking place prior to the fifth session of Arab interior ministers in Tunis next week. He emphasized the identical stands on the various issues on this session's agenda.

Concluding, Prince Nayif said: I thank the interior minister, who enabled me to visit fraternal Syria, a country that is dear to our hearts. I also extend my greetings to President Hafiz al-Asad and convey to him and to the Syrian Arab people the greetings of his brother King Fahd ibn ‘Abd al-‘Aziz and those of Crown Prince ‘Abdallah. I also convey feelings of sincere brotherhood from the Saudi people to their brothers in the Syrian Arab Republic.

Meets With Ghabbash

JN270634 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
2115 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Interior Minister Muhammad Ghabbash today received Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn ‘Abd al-‘Aziz and the delegation accompanying him.

Major General Salah al-Din al-Dabbagh, assistant to the interior minister for police affairs; a Syrian Interior Ministry delegation; and the Saudi ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. They discussed bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest.

A round of talks was then held at the meeting hall in the Interior Ministry between the Syrian Interior Ministry delegation led by Interior Minister Muhammad Ghabbash, and the Saudi delegation led by Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn ‘Abd al-‘Aziz. Members of the two fraternal delegations and the Saudi ambassador in Damascus attended.

At the beginning of the session Muhammad Ghabbash emphasized the need for joint Arab action to serve our Arab causes and nation in various fields — joint Arab action whose bases were laid down by the leaders of the two countries, the struggler leader President Hafiz al-Asad and King Fahd ibn ‘Abd al-‘Aziz, who are always working for the interests of our two peoples and countries and the Arab nation.

Ghabbash reviewed the intensive imperialist media campaign against the Arab nation, particularly Syria, that took the form of tendentious rumors about so-called terrorism. He emphasized that Syria, under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad, has been and continues to be opposed to terrorism in all its forms, but at the same time Syria strongly supports the national struggle aginst the Zionist occupation of Arab territory.

Prince Nayif ibn ‘Abd al-‘Aziz stressed the need for Arab action in the face of imperialist and conspiratorial onslaughts against the Arab nation and onslaights that seek to control Arab economy. He referred to the disregard of the imperialist and Zionist forces for UN resolutions.

Prince Nayif emphasized the deep ties that link Saudi Arabia and Syria, ties built on a solid foundation. He said the two fraternal countries under the guidance of His Majesty King Fahd and President Hafiz al-Asad are constantly working for the progress and prosperity of our Arab nation and for securing its prestige and warding off all threats and plots by the enemies of the Arab nation.

Received by Prime Minister

JN271338 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1215 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] At 1300 today, Prime Minister ‘Abd al-Ra‘uf al-Kasm received Prince Nayif ibn ‘Abd al-‘Aziz, Saudi Arabia's interior minister, and his delegation. The meeting was attended by Interior Minister Muhammad Ghabbash and Saudi Ambassador to Syria Ahmad al-Kuhaymi.

Talks revolved around the ongoing fraternal bilateral relations and promoting bilateral cooperation in various fields. Talks also touched on the current situation in the region and issues of joint concern.

Received by Al-‘Asad

JN271933 Damascus SANA in Arabic
1855 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Damascus, 27 Nov (SANA) — President Hafiz al-Asad received Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn ‘Abd al-‘Aziz at 1800 today. Syrian Interior Minister Muhammad Ghabbash and Saudi Ambassador in Damascus Ahmad al-Kuhaymi attended the meeting.

Prince Nayif conveyed to the president Saudi King Fahd ibn ‘Abd al-‘Aziz's greetings. President Al-Asad asked him to convey his greetings to King Fahd. The talks dealt with the situation in the region and issues of interest to both countries.

Received by Khaddam

JN280704 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
115 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Vice President ‘Abd al-Halim Khaddam today received Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn ‘Abd al-‘Aziz. Muhammad Ghabbash, minister of interior; General ‘Abdallah Al Shaykh, director of public security in Saudi Arabia; and Ahmad al-Quhaymi, Saudi ambassador in Damascus, attended. They discussed the Arab situation, the situation in the region, and bilateral relations.

Damascus Radio Condemns Oman-UK Exercises

JN271121 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Palestine Broadcast: "Abu Salim's Talk"]

[Text] Peace and God's mercy and blessings be upon you. The British forces in the Sultanate of Oman are preparing for exercises including what they call a landing operation and rapid deployment in the Gulf region. The Americans say they are preparing for a major military action in the area. The Zionists are carrying out exercises and threatening a large- scale attack against Lebanon or Syria. The British forces are receiving cooperation in the area in which these maneuvers are to take place. The forces of the Sultanate of Oman are even holding joint exercises with them. Furthermore, international news agencies have reported that there are 2,000 British military officers in the Sultanate of Oman, holding high ranks in the country's armed forces. This of course runs counter to the Arab stand in the Gulf region, which is that defense of the Gulf region is an an Arab responsibility that no foreign power should be allowed to shoulder.

U.S. forces, according to the U.S. Administration sources, are preparing for a major operation in the area, and specifically in the Gulf region. The U.S. forces are receiving facilities in Egypt and elsewhere, and holding joint exercises with Egyptian and Moroccan forces at the same time as they are staging joint maneuvers with the Zionists. These U.S. moves amount to a defiance of the Arab stand that defense of the Gulf and its security is an exclusively Arab responsibility.

The Zionists are mounting joint military exercises with U.S. forces in the Mediterranean, Sinai, and elsewhere. They also say they intend to attack Lebanon and Syria. Simultaneously, they are pursuing aggression against Lebanese villages and towns as well as Palestinian camps in Lebanon.

U.S. forces are making preparations in many places — at U.S. bases in the area, as well as at certain NATO military bases. The Americans and their Zionist allies, as we know, paved the way for all these things by inventing the story of terrorism, through which they sought to rally world public opinion around the dictum that international terrorism originates in the Arab region, which therefore has to be brought under control or occupied if terror is to be stamped out.

It is quite obvious that all these moves are targetted at Syria and its Arab allies. The goal is to blackmail Syria, subjugate it, or shake its steadfastness and resistance to the Americans, Zionists, and their allies and plans in the Arab world. This is because they know that Syria is not merely the stumbling block to placing the area under their domination, but also the launch pad for Arab confrontation and the linchpin in the movement of Arab masses against them, their presence and plans in the Arab region. In all their moves throughout the Arab world they seek to paralyze any Arab move or stand supportive of Syria to deal with it singly, blackmail it, or subjugate it.

Syria is making provisions for everything, and appreciates its immense responsibilities, and the capabilities and plans of the hostile forces. Syria is monitoring all the movements of these forces and is not about to give in to blackmail or bargin over Arab rights and dignity, or for that matter, its pan-Arab approach. This is because Syria knows that through its stands, it represents the Arab will, and defends the dignity and destiny of the entire Arab nation. Syria knows that its steadfastness means the steadfastness of Arab will and laying pan-Arab foundations for a comprehensive pan-Arab march. The size of the hostile forces, the coordination among them, and their movements show that the adversaries know full well that aggression against Syria will not be a walkover, and that these hostile forces have no confidence in themselves or their ability to foresee the style and consequences of an aggression against Syria.

The entire Arab nation, all Arab masses, all institutions, unions, and other Arab organizations are dutybound to move and take serious, tangible stands by shouldering their pan-Arab responsibilities. It is also incumbent upon the pan-Arab forces that are allied with Syria and that are convinced that Syria is an expression of the Arab will and leader of pan-Arab struggle to end all problems hindering their cohesion, to share in facing the danger and the true and primary enemy, namely the Americans, Zionists, and their allies, and to face the plans for the battle that the hostile powers are preparing for — a battle that possibly will decide the conflict in the area between the Arab nation and its foes.

Radio Warns of PLO Split if PNC Convenes

JN261216 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Palestine broadcast: From "On the Events" program]

[Text] Over the past few weeks, the leadership of the Palestinian right has been trying to convene a PNC session, giving the impression that it has made its decision in this regard and will not await the opinion of those who oppose its policy and the illegitimate PNC, whose current term has expired. No legitimate PNC session can be held unless it is the result of a Palestinian national consensus. Unless all the Palestinian forces approve holding such a session, any unilateral action by any side to hold a PNC session will give the other sides the right and legitimacy to form another PNC. Thus, we will find ourselves facing a veritable split of the PLO into two or three organizations. It will no longer be merely a formal split, as the Palestinian forces have so far maintained the PLO unity despite what happened and regardless of Yasir 'Arafat and his rightist leadership.

No doubt, the Arab brothers are aware of the real dangers inherent in 'Arafat's logic and the trend of his rightist leadership. Thus, the Arab brothers are demanding the restoration of PLO unity as a means of convening the PNC session. The country that would allow holding a forged, dissident PNC with those attending would be held responsible for the split that would follow. The country that would host a PNC session must be morally obliged to ascertain the requirements of preserving the unity of the PLO and its representation and the democratic expression of the Palestinian national will. Any leniency in this issue will reflect negatively on the Arab issues. This means that even if the issue is a regional, Palestinian one, it still has its pan-Arab and international dimensions and has serious effects on the PLO and the Palestinian cause. Therefore, any side which ventures to follow a path that leads to splitting the PLO is carrying out an act of sabotage against the Palestinian cause and is placing itself in a trench hostile to our people and strugglers, thus making the differences between the two side more dangerous.

Therefore, we warn those who are trying to undertake such a step of the consequences that might result from it and hold them completely responsible for such results.

PDRY's Al-'Attas Stops Over in Damascus

JN261655 Damascus SANA in Arabic
1510 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Damascus, 26 Nov (SANA) — Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium, and the delegation accompanying him stopped over at Damascus International Airport en route to his country from Algeria. He was received and seen off at Damascus International Airport by 'Isam al-Na'ib, minister of state for foreign affairs, and a number of Foreign Ministry officials.

Radio Notes FRG Minister's Remarks on Terrorism

JN272158 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
2115 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Bonn — Juergen Moelleman, minister of state in the FRG Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has refused to tie the phenomenon of international terrorism to the Arabs, saying that this phenomenon is not coming from the Middle East but is spreading in Europe, which shelters many terrorists. In a statement published in the newspaper *Al-'Arab* in London today, Moelleman said that his country has so far not found any evidence to show that any Arab state was involved in throwing an explosive device at the headquarters of the Arab-German Friendship Society building. He recalled the contradictory statements by international sides which hastened to accuse the Arab states of terrorist operations. He said: At first it was said that Libya was behind the incident to blow up this building and the nightclub. These accusations were then transferred to Syria without any evidence showing the involvement of either country in the incidents.

In another issue, the FRG Social Democratic Party today described the arms deal between the FRG and the racist regime of South Africa as one of the greatest scandals faced by the German state in modern history. Reports cite the party spokesman as saying that by providing South Africa with arms, the FRG had lost its credibility in the outside world, especially the Third World, and lost its respect in the international community by violating the UN resolutions against providing South Africa with arms.

The chairman of the foreign relations committee in the FRG parliament and member of the ruling Christian Democratic Party has said that if the reports on this deal are ture, the issue will be much more dangerous than a scandal.

Minister Says Arms Sent at Reagan Request

TA270813 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 27 Nov 86 p 2

[Report by Pe'erli Shahar]

[Excerpt] "The arms shipments from Israel to Iran were delivered at the request of U.S. President Ronald Reagan, and he knew about them," a senior minister in the Cabinet told *Hadashot* yesterday. The minister said one can assume that Reagan's denial of his knowledge of the fact refers only to the stage in which the money received in return for the weapons was transferred to the Nicaraguan rebels. The minister confirmed that in the middle of 1985 Israel had indeed received a request from the United States to transfer weapons to Iran, which it did. [passage omitted]

Team Set Up To Investigate Source of Iran Leak

TA270955 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 27 Nov 86 p 1

[Report by Ron Ben-Yishay]

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Ministers Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Rabin have set up an investigatory team whose job will be to find the source of the leak on Israel's role in the "Iranian connection."

Government To Allow U.S. To Question Officials

TA280601 Tel Aviv YED'IOT AHARONOT in Hebrew 28 Nov 86 pp 1, 6

[Report by Roni Shaqed and Shlomo Naqdimon; Errol Guiney, Eli Tavor, and Ya'aqov Eylon in the United States; Yohanan Lahav in London; and Edwin Eytan in Paris]

[Excerpt] Israel will comply with a U.S. request — if such is made — to enable American investigators to question the Israelis whose names have been mentioned in connection with the affairs of the arms supply to Iran. These are 'Amiram Nir, the prime minister's adviser on terrorism; David Kimche, the former director general of the Foreign Ministry; and Al Schwimmer, a former special adviser to Shim'on Peres.

Although Washington has not yet sent such an official request, hints and rumors have reached Jerusalem to the effect that the American investigators who are questioning those administration officials involved in the affair also want to interrogate the Israelis who collaborated with them.

It was stated in Jerusalem last night that Israel has nothing to hide or fear from the questioning of the Israelis by U.S. investigators. Referring to the role played by 'Amiram Nir in the affair, all Israeli sources confirm that he did not operate on his own and had continuously briefed former Prime Minister Shim'on Peres who, for his part, shared this information with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and then-foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. [passage omitted]

Sale Hoped To Locate Soldiers Held in Lebanon

TA270511 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] The Iranian arms sale affair continues to make additional waves: The AP quotes an Israeli official as saying private Israeli weapons dealers took advantage of the onetime authorization by the Reagan Administration to sell arms to the Tehran Government. The unnamed official in Jerusalem said Israel allowed the private sale in hopes that this would help locate missing Israeli soldiers being held in Lebanon.

Meanwhile, Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee Chairman Abba Eban has termed the decisionmaking process involved in the Iranian arms sale affair totally inadequate.

Shamir Says Relations With U.S. Not in Danger

TA270638 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir believes that Israel's relations with the United States do not face any immediate danger in the wake of the affair of the arms supplied to Iran and the funds supplied to the rebels in Nicaragua and that the Israeli aspect of these affairs is gradually playing a lesser role in the political argument within the United States.

Shamir made these remarks last night in a meeting of the Likud ministers and in light of reports he received from Israel's legations in the United States.

Peres Says U.S. Not Seeking To Find Scapegoat

TA261635 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Shim'on Peres this evening sharply attacked the news media, particularly the newspaper *Davar*, for what he termed false reports concerning the Iranian affair. This is reported by our correspondent Razi Barqay.

Peres said that in absolute contrast to Israeli press reports, the U.S. Administration is not trying to make a scapegoat out of Israel concerning the deal with Iran. He added that, during his phone conversation with George Shultz, there was no sign whatsoever that the administration was on a confrontation course with Israel or that the friendship between the two countries is in danger. Mr Peres was speaking in Tel Aviv.

Peres Replies to Knesset No-Confidence Motions

TA261625 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1130 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Address by Shim'on Peres, vice prime minister and foreign minister, to the Knesset in response to no-confidence motions over the Iran arms sale affair — live]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] What do I have to be ashamed of? That we helped the United States in such a humane issue?

Knesset Member [MK] Yosi Sarid says there is a Teflon pan and in the other hand a tin pan to which every bit of dirt gets stuck. Who is sticking the dirt? I want to understand. Who is the glue? Someone is serving as the glue. I heard your remarks, and I will tell you what things you said are incorrect.

You have slandered the Israeli Government with incredible audacity, as if you spoke in the name of the Lord. Who told you that we played inside Washington? What gives you the authority to tell such a tale, that we played inside Washington, that we stirred up intrigues in Washington? [MK Sarid interrupts, shouting indistinct]

You! You said: Do you not have enough intrigue in Jerusalem, we have to stir up intrigue in Washington? What intrigue did we stir up? What gives you the authority to tell such a lie?

Last night I spoke to Mr Shultz: Did he say that? I spoke with Mr Meese: Did he say that? On whose behalf are you speaking? You are the glue. Did MacFarlane say it? Did the President say so? Did someone say this about us? [passage omitted]

Life is full of contradictions. I will now read what Mr Meese said, the reasons they decided to supply arms to Iran. This is what he said: To try to bring an end to the Iran-iraq war; to try to decrease the participation of Iran in terrorism in the Middle East; and to get our hostages. [last sentence in English, quoting Meese]

Each MK must make his own list of priorities. I would like to say that as an Israeli and as a human being I am full of admiration for the President of the United States, who has 230 million constivents and who, nevertheless, when he has 6 hostages does not rest for 1 minute. What are arms dealers? What kind of arms dealers are we? [passage indistinct with many interruptions from various Knesset members]

A true democratic country, not one that MK Wilner would like, must remain responsible for the fate, safety, freedom, and memory, sometimes, of every single citizen. This is the consideration that confronted us. And do not try to slander us. Money was not a consideration here. Israel did not earn even one penny from the whole affair.

I am proud and moved when a person as extraordinary as Secretary of State Shultz, in whose integrity and sincerity I believe, raises the matter of Soviet Jewry at the top of his agenda every time he goes to Moscow. Am I the one to give him instructions? Does he get instructions from me? And if the President does the same thing, if the President asks something of us? It is this false egoism that dictates that everyone should do things for us, and we do nothing for others. Why? Why? What capitulation to pressure is involved? I was proud when the three U.S. hostages were released, even though they were not Israelis. I was proud. It is possible that had there been control, they would have known how they were released. However, it is possible that had they known, the hostages would not have been released. This is also a consideration, and I do not want to go into detail.

What kind of slander is this? Did we trade arms? Did we take anything for ourselves? Did we seek some advantage for ourselves? Why do I have to ask for your forgiveness, MK Granot? For what? For what do you want a commission of inquiry? Just because you read some gossip? Just because the media is having a ball? And this will also pass. We are not administering the United States. And I would like to tell MK Shitrit that we had nothing to prepare; this was not an Israeli operation.

I want to say one more thing: What compelled us yesterday to make a statement... [changes thought] I was of the opinion that Israel should remain silent — both my colleagues and I thought so. Whatever goes on in the U.S. is an American matter; it is a U.S. affair, not an Israeli one. Israel was asked to help, and it did so willingly. It was asked to help secretly, and it helped secretly, just as they help us secretly, and they do not tell the whole world how this is done. What happened yesterday was the insinuation — not even a report — that we had transferred money to the contras. There was nothing of the kind. We did not such thing. The money did not pass through Israel at all. Mr Mees was referring to all events since January this year. Not one penny passed through Israel. What was mentioned was the amount of money and the bank account, and the Iranians transferred this money directly. We had not taken part in it. What slander are you trying to make? We had nothing to do with it. [passage omitted]

Rabin Says Contra Connection 'Unknown To Us'

TA261950 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Interview with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by political correspondent Yig'al Goren; date and place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Rabin] Israel does not hesitate to approach the United States with requests to save Jews, to handle captives, to search for missing people, and it should be remembered that it was the United States that at the virtual last minute brought about the rescue of thousands of Ethiopian Jews from Sudan. We must remember that today as in the past, the United States serves as the main lever in talks with the Soviet Union to bring about the exit of Soviet Jews. Therefore, I believe the decision we — the prime minister, the vice prime minister and foreign minister, and myself — reached jointly to assist the United States in transferring U.S. arms and spare parts or, as the U.S. President defined them, defensive arms and spare parts. [sentence incomplete as heard] The money did not pass through us, as also appears in reports from the United States. I think that it is inconceivable for an Israeli Government not to grant such a request for assistance.

[Goren] But now, Israel finds itself in the midst of an American scandal, from your remarks, innocently enough. If so, what is going on here?

[Rabin] When talking about the United States, it is only natural that in a democratic country there can be differing opinions on the decision the President made on a certain policy toward Iran. I do not think it is our job to enter the argument. In my opinion, the President's policy as he had defined it, and even his willingness to strengthen it by sending those same defensive arms and spare parts, is acceptable to me. We, however, should not have stipulated our position. We were asked to help, and we helped. The business of the transfer of funds received in exchange in this deal for other purposes — namely, to help the contras who are fighting against the Sandinista regime in Nicaragua — was unknown to us and not coordinated with us. The fact that suspicion was cast on Israel, that it was responsible, was what led us to the issuing of the government statement yesterday in which we claimed that we had no part in this affair.

[Goren] Do you think that Israel will emerge from this affair scathed in terms of its relations with the United States?

[Rabin] I do not want to comment. I believe that essentially what Israel did was to transfer U.S. arms at the request of the United States and that the money did not pass through our hands. We made no financial gain from the affair. We did what we did for U.S. objectives with which I, at least, personally identify.

Government Feels 'Deceived' on Contra Connection

TA271050 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 27 Nov 86 pp 1, 13

[Report by Ron Ben-yishay and Roni Shaqed and by Erol Guiney, Eli Tavor, and Ya'aqov Eylon in the United States]

[Excerpts] The uproar aroused by the latest disclosures on the Iran weapons deal continues to make waves both in Jerusalem and in Washington. A senior source in Jerusalem said last night, in reaction to the accusations voiced by U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese: "We feel deceived, because the White House staff withheld from us information that the money received in return for the arms consignments we dispatched to Iran would be handed over to the Nicaraguan contra rebels. They imbroiled us, without our knowledge, and got us mixed up with Congress." [passage omitted]

Following are the developments in the Iranian arms affair: Officially, Jerusalem has been claiming that the U.S. Administration is "satisfied" with the clarifications made 2 days ago, maintaining that Israel played no role in the transfer of funds to the contras' Swiss bank accounts. The official position is that in fact there is no basic dispute between Israel and the United States, and there is and will not be a crisis between the two countries. The impression in the Prime Minister's Office last night was that, in view of reports from the United States, the statement changed the attitude toward Israel in both the Administration and Congress and that Israel is no longer at the eye of the hurricane, which is "an internal U.S. affair."

Yet the senior source who talked with our correspondent expressed great anger over U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese's rashness in hurrying to reveal facts that had not been checked in his statement of 2 nights ago, thereby besmirching Israel on the basis of evidence given by Administration elements that are unsympathetic toward Israel.

In fact, the Israeli Government is in a real tight spot or in a Catch-22 situation:

— Had Jerusalem failed to deny charges that it transferred money to the contras, this would have constituted a tacit admission of a plot to circumvent Congress and would have been construed as a big slap in the face of the House. It was Congress' support that had been so valuable to us even during the darkest days of the Carter Administration, and we will no doubt need it in the future, too.

— Israel therefore decided that for the sake of its relations with Congress, it must deny the charges, and consequently issued the communique expressing the truth as seen from Jerusalem's side, hoping the White House would be clever enough to extricate itself from that bog on its own. In so doing, it sent the ball — the charges — back to the White House's court, if not directly to the court of the friendly President, Ronald Reagan, himself.

Last night, Jerusalem again emphasized that all the U.S. weapons transferred to Iran were conveyed at the request of the United States, in return for which Israel received similar arms from the United States. Israel was not at all involved in the financial matters and merely informed the Iranian representative where to deposit the money in Switzerland. Israel had no knowledge where the money got to from Switzerland, and in fact it was none of its business, as it merely served as a funnel for the transfer of weapons to Iran.

The U.S. request for the transfer of weapons was relayed through the U.S. national security adviser directly to the prime minister.

Yesterday, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir briefed the Inner Cabinet on the entire affair. There he encountered bitter criticism over the fact that only a small group of ministers, which included the prime minister, the vice prime minister, and the defense minister, were in the know, while the other members of the Inner Cabinet were not briefed on the handling of the weapons transfer and had no role in it.

Further criticism was voiced there on the fact that the actual handling of the affair was entrusted to people that were not professional enough to deal with such a delicate and sensitive issue.

After hearing the explanations on the operation, the members of the Inner Cabinet were convinced that the consideations were justified, but they still claimed that the way the matter was handled — that is, without the knowledge of the entire Inner Cabinet — was wrong.

People in the Prime Minister's Office claimed yesterday that the team that handled the affair was sufficiently professional and responsible to deal with it, as it included three people who had served as prime ministers and had the moral power and responsibility to deal with it. [passage omitted]

As for the actual arms deals, new details have been published:

— A senior Jerusalem source has reported that "since January 1985, not even a single item was taken out of IDF warehouses for the Iranians, and not $1 passed through Israeli hands. Everything was dealt with directly between the Iranians and the United States." [passage omitted]

Weizman: Government Unaware of Contra Funding

TA261545 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Minister Weizman says he will not demand the setting up of an inquiry commission into the matter of arms supplies to Iran. Weizman says Israel did not know that the money from the arms sales was transferred to the contras. He assessed that the scandal in the United States would take on even greater proportions than Watergate because the matter involves the violation of a congressional law.

Our correspondent 'Adi Malul reports Weizman was speaking at a symposium at the Sharet Institute in Jerusalem. He added that there was a contradiction between the sale of arms to Iran and our ties with Egypt and Jordan.

Views Iran Affair, U.S. Ties

TA262055 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1940 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Interview with Minister Without Portfolio 'Ezer Weizman by Yoram Ronen, Elimelekh Ram, and Moshe Shlonsky on the "Moqed" program — live in the studio]

[Excerpts] [Ronen] Good evening, Mr Weizman.

[Weizman] Good evening.

[Ronen] Last night U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese announced that Israel sold arms to Iran and that the funds received for them were transferred to the rebels in Nicaragua. Did this announcement surprise you?

[Weizman] Yes, definitely. I think that it surprised not only me but the whole government. As far as I could make out today, it was not part of the deal or the prior agreement. Therefore it surprised me and the three ministers who handled this whole subject of Iran and the hostages.

[Ronen] Was the prior agreement a decision not to publicize anything?

[Weizman] I did not take part in the decisionmaking; therefore, I cannot answer you on any agreements. If you ask me about things I know, I will answer you; if you ask me about my opinions, I will certainly answer you.

[Ram] Mr Weizman, the decision, as the foreign minister said today, was made by a three-man forum: then Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, then foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, and Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin. Do you think that this is the way a decision on matters of such great importance should be made; that is, by three out of the ten Inner Cabinet members?

[Weizman] The answer is: certainly not. [passage omitted]

[Ram] Let us talk of a hypothetical situation. Let us say that we will present reasons against such a deal to President Reagan or the U.S. Administration when they ask us for whatever they do. Suppose also that they are not convinced by our arguments. In your opinion, in the name of the special relations between Israel and the United States, should we have nevertheless gone ahead with the deal?

[Weizman] Look, I assess that the deal may have ultimately been carried through. However, I would have meticulously checked where the money was going and not let myself be trapped, as we are informed, that this money went to an account to south...

[Ronen, interrupting] Switzerland, to Switzerland and from there to the Contras.

[Shlonsky] We may not have had any control over it, did we?

[Weizman] Look, we are talking about friends and of trust between us and America. If what we hear is correct, then putting it in simple terms I would say that we were tricked on the Nicaragua issue. Now, if we were tricked on the Nicaragua issue, then the lid on this exercise did not close well, apparently. With your permission, though, I would like to ask the United States — and not only on this specific issue of supply or no supply of arms.

[Ronen] I would like to ask you a question here first. In your assessment, has this recent affair damaged our relations with the United States, especially our relations with the U.S. Congress, which is very much opposed to this deal?

[Weizman] At first glance, my answer is yes. The moment you reach a situation where you have to supply excuses you are not in a good position. However, taking into consideration the strong basis of relations between us and the United States, understanding which is based on simple friendship as well as common interests, I assess this will be a passing storm. However, this storm will leave a lot of debris behind. I would not lightly dismiss the present situation as an ephemeral episode. Whoever reads the U.S. press, whoever listens to what emanates from that country will see the U.S. storm has just begun, and unfortunately we keep hearing of Israeli names or moves all the time.

[Ronen] In other words, the mud will ultimately stick to us as well, in your opinion?

[Weizman] Look, I am not saying this is mud. I am talking about a problem; this is a problem rather than mud. Let me repeat: some did this with sincerity, although their decision making process is wrong, as far as I am concerned. However, I cannot accept assessments that this will not affect relations with the United States. Some friends of ours have already disappeared from the scene...

[Ronen, interrupting] For instance?

[Weizman] For instance, (?North) and Poindexter, those people who spoke; possibly also Secretary Shultz whom we regard as a friend. I do not know him as well as some of my colleagues do. I also assess that the affair is not over for President Reagan either yet. Remember the case of President Nixon who was an excellent U.S. President and an Israeli sympathizer: He extended extraordinary aid to us during the Yom Kippur War, and he had to resign for not telling the truth.

[Shlonsky] Do you assess that Reagan will be removed as well?

[Ram] You are saying this is worse than Watergate; this is what you said at the beginning of this interview. Is it so indeed?

[Weizman] I am saying this is worse than Watergate since this involves complications with the Congress as well. This apparently involves not telling the truth and the issue of Nicaragua, and do not forget that the Congress and Senate there are all Democratic. If I were the U.S. President, I would be very concerned today. [passage omitted]

Paper Says Syria Leaked Report on Arms Deal

TA281101 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 28 Nov 86 p 1

[Report by the political correspondent]

[Excerpt] Syria was the party that leaked to the U.S. media the report on the weapons deal with Iran to harm the position of the U.S. Administration. This was done as a result of the sanctions imposed on Syria by the United States and other Western countries. This comes out of reports that have reached Jerusalem.

Syria knew about these deals as a result of its links with Iran; Syria and Libya transferred Soviet weapons to Iran, among them long- range missiles Iran uses to bomb Baghdad. Some of the weapons Libya gave Iran were transferred without Soviet permission, after Libya purchased the weapons from the USSR. [passage omitted]

Press Editorials Discuss Iran Issue 26 Nov

TA261835 [Editorial Report] Most of the Israeli press on 26 November carries editorials and commentaries on the issue of arms sales to Iran in general, as well as on U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese's disclosure about Israel's involvement in the affair, in particular. The paper call for answers on Israel's role in this, level criticisms at the Israeli Government, and elaborate on the grave short- and long-term ramifications involved.

In a front-page commentary in *Ha'aretz*, entitled "Israel Will Be Damaged by What Started Out as Granting Assistance to a Friend and Become an International Escapade," military commentator Ze'ev Schiff says that Israel's name is increasingly mentioned as the one responsible for the complications that the United States is currently facing on the Iranian issue, with some in the United States already claiming that one of Israel's targets was "to drive a wedge between the United States and moderate Arab countries such as Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and Jordan, which support Iraq in its war against Iran." According to Schiff, Israel will surely be damaged, and leaders such as Peres and Rabin will also face delicate problems since, in meetings with Secretaries Shultz and Weinberger "they concealed from their U.S. counterparts moves Israel made behind their backs in cooperation with the National Security Council of the White House."

In a commentary on page seven of the same paper, entitled "The Story of the Persian Cat's Tail," New York-based correspondent Yo'av Qarni contends that as "a legitmate partner to the discreditation of the U.S. Administration" on the Iranian issue, Israel too will have to make decisions, on its stance on Iran for one. According to Qarni, Israel has for many years adhered to a "peripheral," anti-Arab political policy that meant the "Persian cat" like other "cats" or countries on the periphery of the region share Israel's interests in their negative attitude toward the Arabs. The question though is whether this policy "will serve Israel's long-term interests," since short-term tactical victories for Israel only strengthen the Arabs' conviction that "Israel is a foreign element whose political practices involve the undermining of stability in the Arab world," which does not serve the cause of peace in the Middle East.

An *Ha'aretz* editorial on page seven, entitled "Who Decided To Grant Military Aid to Iran?", demands an answer to its statement that Israel's aid to Iran started even before Iraq attacked this country and that, despite official declarations, this was a clear Israeli policy for 5 long years.

In a commentary entitled "Has a Government Been Abducted?" on pages seven and eight of *Davar*, Yosi Melman declares that once the government breaks its silence over the Iran issue it will have to give replies to many important questions on the decision-making process involved. The impression created is that interested arms dealers, Ya'aqov Nimrodi and Al Schwimmer, "abducted" the government and forced it into this affair. Quoting Minister Moshe Arens, who termed the present U.S. Administration's complications as "Irangate," Melman says that it is not only the U.S. public but also the Israeli public which is entitled to hear explanations from the decisionmakers.

Writing in the same paper and on the same pages, in a commentary entitled "Adieu, L'Ami," Washington-based correspondent Amnon Dankner points to one major damage which may be caused to Israel in this affair: the possible loss of George Shultz, who is Israel's "most prominent friend ever," in the U.S. Administration. Dankner claims that whatever eventually happens with Shultz in this affair, however lacking in credibility and loyalty to his President as he may be, the official Jerusalem has played Brutus in rewarding this great friend at one of his most difficult moments by sticking a knife in his back through leaking to the Israeli press that the U.S. secretary of state "is not being accurate" in his remarks on his knowledge of the Iranian issue. "It is clear that Israel will lose if a great friend is removed." Furthermore, it is not only Shultz but other friends of Israel who will take note of Jerusalem's betrayal, as well.

In a commentary entitled "The Game Is Over," on page two of *Hadashot*, Ilan Kfir says that if Edwin Meese's disclosure about Israel's devious conduct is proven true, "this will deal a hard blow to Israel and its relations with the U.s. Congress," noting that the resulting crisis of credibility "will have grave existential implications for Israel." Kfir concludes that even if the appropriate conclusions are drawn against the responsible persons in Israel and even if the Israeli Government will explain matters and apologize, "it is doubtful if it will be possible to restore our damaged credibility in the short term."

In a commentary entitled "Special Assistant for Dirty Affairs" on page three of *'Al Hamishmar*, Gadi Yatziv says that thanks to public pressure in the democratic United States the Israeli people have learned, despite their government's denials, that we have undertaken the role of "a special assistant for dark and dirty affairs" and of a special agent used for circumventing U.S. public opinion, U.S. Congressional decisions, and U.S. laws in general. Yatziv notes that this is a "particularly rare folly" and that this "wise commercial wisdom," which has no moral restraint and knows no ideological barrier, "is engaged in feasting and revelry, gets drunk, and wallows in its vomit."

In a commentary in the same opposition MAPAM paper on page seven, entitled "Who Determines What Is Good for Us?", Dalya Shehori points out that the same pattern of decisionmaking by only three people in the Israeli Government, the prime minister and defense and foreign ministers, characterizes all four major scandals that erupted this year: the Pollard, Shin Bet, Vanunu, and Iran affairs. Shehori condemns this practice as both undemocratic and counterproductive. The decision on the arms sale was the U.S. Administration's, but Israel today appears in the United States as an intriguing country, as a troublemaker, as a country that "pretends to act on behalf of the United States for friendship's sake, but cares only for its own interests, in fact." Shehori says it is too early for Jerusalem to hope for a good end, for having the great friend Shultz remain in his office and Jean Kirkpatrick appointed as the president's national security adviser, and that whatever the end result, such unpleasant affairs make Israel register in the U.s. public opinion as "a friend one should be wary of."

In a commentary on pages one and nine of *Ma'ariv*, entitled "Eroding Credibility," 'Ido Dissentchik questions both the technical and substantive aspects of this affair. Criticizing the fact that only the Shamir-Peres-Rabin trio made decisions on important issues, Dissentchik says that it is crystal clear now that Israel can no longer hide behind the innocent claim that its actions were intended solely in order to aid its distressed friend. "There is no doubt anymore that the Israeli initiative was an important catalyst in U.s. considerations, to the point where a U.s. official, the national security adviser, did not see any fault in cooperating with Israel behind the president's back. Israel may not have known that the President is not in the know but this, too, will be difficult to sell today." The Israelis are not innocent; they knew they were party to a potentially large-scale scandal, and today they are indeed "tied with an umbilical cord" to a Watergate-size situation. Dissentchik deplores the irresponsible support extended to Iran and the Nicaraguan contras, stating that in any normal country the leadership would not be able to evade responsibility for eroding the country's credibility, but this is not the case here: "Whoever could constitute alternative leadership in Israel was party to the act; there is nobody to dismiss and nobody to resign, unless they all resign."

In a commentary on the same pages of the same paper, entitled "The Ugly Israeli," Washington-based correspondent 'Ofra Yeshu'a-Lyth elaborates on the grave ethical and political implications of the affair. Those in Jerusalem who decided it was worthwhile "to dirty their hands in this muddy deal," have muddled Israel's public image and caused the mud to boomerang in our face. This may cause friendly U.s. elements to turn against Israel and against the ugly face of the Israelis involved, those sophisticated dealers who seemed to have made more money on the arms sold than quoted in the official U.S. Administration's prices. The commentator concludes with the hope that democracy will at least be practised in Israel and that those who gave the instruction will be required to draw the appropriate conclusions.

In its editorial on page ten, entitled "Keeping a Secret," *Ma'ariv* basically laments the indifference revealed by the Israeli public toward the fact that its government decides on and practices important policies without any supervision from such bodies as the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Subcommittee.

In a commentary on pages one and twelve of *Yedi'ot Aharonot*, entitled "Jerusalem — It Is True That We Supplied Arms, But We Did Not Transfer Money to the Contras," Roni Shaqed and Shlomo Naqdimon say that following Meese's disclosure "Israel had to explain its position last night so as not to turn into a scapegoat in the struggle now waging in and around the U.S. Administration." It is clear to Israel that it is facing a difficult problem and that some Washington elements would want to divert some of the pressure off to Israel, so although Jerusalem hopes the U.S. President overcomes the current crisis, it has to make clear it acted in good faith on this matter and not behind the President's back.

In a commentary entitled "The Question: Did the Israeli Representatives Realize That They Were Participating in Bypassing Congress?" on pages three and twelve of *Yedi'ot Aharonot*, Ron Ben-Yishay wonders on the real extent of Israel's involvement in this affair, noting that possibly the gravest outcome will be U.s. Congress' negative reaction to Israel if Israel consciously shared in circumventing it. Ben-yishay contends, though, that remarks by Meese and others seems to show that attempts are underway to eliminate the crossfire directed at the President "by dismissing White House officials and pointing an accusing finger toward Israel." However, the light here for Israel is that it is Poindexter and North, rather than Shultz, Israel's faithful supporter, who had to go.

In its second page editorial, entitled "The Iranian Plot Thickens," *Yedi'ot Aharonot* says that Israel's involvement, or rather "intrigue," has become a fact in U.S. public opinion, and that Israel seems second in line to Poindexter and North in the efforts to rescue the President and find the culprit. U.S. elements indicate Israel has both political and military interests in this affair that run counter to U.s. one. In this affair Israel may lose friends as well as the sympathy of Congress in the United States.

27 Nov Editorials

TA270605 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0430 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Review of morning press editorials]

[Text] *Ha'aretz* says that if it transpires now that the U.S. officials took theuir own counsel in regard to the consignments of weapons to Iran and exceeded their authority while withholding vital information from their superiors, including the President, there is no reason why the blame for either all or part of the consequences should be put on Israel. Unfortunately, this is precisely the impression gained from the U.S. attorney general's remarks 2 days ago. One should not rule out the possibility that further attempts of this kind will be made in the next few days. We should prepare for and withstand this trend unequivocally. The blunder is that of the U.S. Administration, and so far not even one charge against Israel's role in the blunder, even one raised by the U.s. attorney general, has been proved. This message should be relayed to Congress and the U.S. public clearly and firmly. A special information campaign, using public personalities and experts from among Israel's friends overseas, may be necessary to achieve this.

Davar writes that in the final analysis it would be difficult to believe that in a country like the United States, whose affairs are conducted so smoothly, the President's national security adviser could act behind the President's back. The question is whether the destination of the money deposited in Switzerland — namely, the contras — was known to the Israelis. The prime minister, the vice prime minister, and the defense minister ought to be given the benefit of the doubt on this matter, unless proved otherwise.

Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres' speech in the Knesset yesterday was good. He sounded convincing when he spoke about the motives behind the operation; namely, that the hope for financial profits played no role whatsoever. This, however, is not to say that the bitter criticism voiced by the opponents of the deal was completely groundless. This contradiction merely shows how involved and complex such deals are and how dangerous they can be. We must analyze what was done and draw conclusions from the events about the way we handle arms supplies and with respect to the recipients of those weapons. If no soul-searching is done, and if we fail to learn the proper lessons, the damage will be all that is left in the end.

Hatzofe says that the most senior decisionmaking echelon cannot plead innocence; one cannot but wonder about the fact that the past 2 years' leading triumvirate — that is, Shim'on Peres, Yitzhaq Rabin, and Yitzhaq Shamir — failed to see where things were leading and how far they were deteriorating. This holds particularly true with regard to the person who stood at the helm at the time. This introspection is necessary for the past, but more than that, it is crucial for the future. Israel will be hard put to face future affairs like the supply of weapons to Iran if they should crop up again. We are facing damage to our reputation and international standing, and these are matters that require a long time to overcome.

'Al Hamishmar writes that the story on the use of the Iranian money to finance arms sales to the contra rebels in Nicaragua is currently being totally denied by officials in Israel, just as the story on the sale of weapons of Iran had been a month ago. However, all we need to do is wait patiently for the Americans to tell us the whole truth on this embarrassing issue, too. Those directly responsible for implicating Israel in these murky affairs, as the paper puts it, which are detrimental to the country's security and future, are the advisers who stirred up this concoction. People like 'Amiram Nir should be fired at once, but, nevertheless, they are supervised by the ministers, as well as the former and incumbent prime minister, neither of whom have yet claimed responsibility and resigned.

The Jerusalem Post says that in the absence today of any genuine opposition, there is not the scantest hope that the Knesset will be able to hold the government to account, even when it perpetrates a monumental blunder. That task we have relegated to the U.S. Congress. With no checks and balances in Jerusalem, it will remain for the Congress in Washington not only to straighten out its own Administration, but Israel's as well.

Hamodi'a writes that Mr Peres' feelings about the self-destructive attitudes permeating and guiding the Israeli media is a long-standing sentiment, which was bred by that press' continuous efforts and systematic self-destructiveness even on matters relating to Israel's very right exist as a Jewish state, as welll as on other issues pertaining to the fabrica of relations between Jews and Arabs. Here, too, the paper claims, the press is motivated by self-destructive aspirations that take the form of exaggerating things at the whim of individual reporters.

Air Force Raids 'Terrorist' Targets Near Sidon

TA271256 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1254 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Here is an announcement by the IDF spokesman: Air Force airplanes raided terrorist targets south of Sidon in southern Lebanon at noon. All our planes returned safely to their bases. The pilots reported accurate hits on the targets. The targets attacked included positions and trenches used by terrorists of the Fatah and other organizations. As said, all our planes returned safely to their bases.

Further Details

TA271830 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Report by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal]

[Text] The targets for the Israeli Air Force attack today were two multi-story structures that were under construction near the Al-Miyah Wa Miyah and 'Ayn al-Hulwah refugee camps in the Sidon area. Fighter planes were used this time, unlike the attack there 10 days ago in which attack helicopters were used. The attack began at 1415 this afternoon and was brief. The pilots noticed several jeeps escaping from the site just prior to the attack. They hit and damaged structures that served Fatah and other terrorist organizations. The pilots reported no antiaircraft fire against them and returned safely to base after the attack.

In the course of the operation, the pilots took care not to harm Shi'ite fighters who have been clashing with terrorists in this area for several days; hits were only on the predetermined targets. One may assume that today's attack carries significance beyond the hits on the targets themselves. As just said, the Shi'ites are struggling against the terrorists in this region, and the Air Force attack may undermine the terrorists' feeling of confidence, strengthened lately in the wake of several victories that they scored in the Sidon and Maghdushah areas.

ALGERIA

PDRY's Al-'Attas Concludes Visit to Country

LD261444 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] President Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the PDRY Supreme Presidium, left Algeria this morning following a 3-day friendly working visit to our country. The Yemeni president was seen off at Houari Boumediene International Airport by Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic, FLN secretary general, and member of the Political Bureau; senior officials of the party and state; and members of the Arab diplomatic corps accredited to Algeria. Before boarding the plane, President al-'Attas greeted those present and listened to both national anthems; President al-'Attas then inspected a republican guard of honor.

During his visit, the Yemeni President had a series of talks with President Chadli Bendjedid; another set of talks took place between both delegations at the Charter Building [jinan mithaq]. The Yemeni president also visited a number of social and cultural projects in Algeria. The delegation accompanying him had talks with Algerian officials. The talks touched upon bilateral relations and ways to improve them. They also exchanged views on the Arab situation and international issues of mutual interest.

Joint Communique Issued

LD261855 Algiers APS in Arabic 1500 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Excerpts] Algiers, 26 Nov (APS) — President Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium, left Algiers this morning at the end of a 3-day friendly working visit. [passage omitted]

The friendly working visit of President Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium, to Algeria from 24 to 26 November was crowned by the issuing of a joint communique which includes the strengthening of existing brotherly ties between the two brotherly peoples, the consolidating of the ties of friendship and solidarity that prevail in the relations between the two countries, and the importance of strengthening continued consultations and coordination between the leadership of the two brotherly countries, particulary regarding issues pertaining to the Arab world and issues of its destiny.

The two sides reaffirmed their countries' support for the Palestinian people's struggle because of it being the essence of the Middle East problem; the conflict in this region cannot be settled without finding a just solution to the Palestinian people's right of self-determination and the establishing of their independent state on their national soil.

To prevent unilateral initiatives [words indistinct], the two sides believe that the convening of an international conference attended by all concerned parties, including the PLO, and under the supervision of the UN Security Council's permanent members, would help to find a just and lasting solution to the Middle East issue.

On the Lebanese problem, the two sides urge all concerned Lebanese parties to stop the fighting among themselves and to work toward finding a framework of understanding among the various factions in order to maintain the Arabism of Lebanon, its territorial unity, independence, and sovereignty, and to return security and stability to Lebanon. They encourage initiatives aimed at achieving Lebanese national unity through constructive dialogue among political [word indistinct] for the sake of peace under national legitimacy. They also express their full support for the Lebanese people's steadfastness in the face of the Zionist occupation and their struggle for the liberation of all their land.

The two sides also stress that the just solution of the Western Sahara question lies in the implementation of the resolutions of the OAU and of the UN General Assembly. They renewed their appeal to the two sides involved in the conflict — Morocco and the Polisario — to enter into direct negotiaions on a cease-fire, in the aim of achieving the necessary conditions for conducting a plebiscite on self-determination and independence for Western Sahara under the auspices of the OAU and the United Nations.

With regard to the Iraq-Iran war, the two sides express their regret at the continuation of this war and appeal to the two sides to end this destructive war and resort to peaceful means to find a final and just settlement which will guarantee the rights of both sides and safeguard their dignity.

The two sides reaffirmed their backing and total support for the (liberation) movements in South Africa and Namibia, under the leadership of the ANC [African National Congress] and SWAPO [South-West Africa People's Organization], in their legitimate struggle against slavery and racism so that the two peoples can regain their legitimate rights to independence and freedom. The two sides renewed their allegiance with the Frontline States against the racist regime in Pretoria.

In this connection the two sides stressed the legitimate right of the colonized people's armed struggle to liberate their lands, attain their independence, and regain their usurped rights. The two sides condemn the aggressive policy pursued by the imperialist forces, the terroristic practices, the piratical methods, and the violation of other states' territorial integrity and sovereignty. The two sides reaffirm the right of peoples to choose their own political and social systems.

In their review of international issues of mutual interest the views of both sides were identical with regard to all the questions which were discussed. The two sides expressed their commitment to the principles of the Nonaligned Movement, their conviction in continuing the efforts to bolster international peace and world security, to halt the arms race, and to liquidate foreign military bases. The two sides stressed the significance of meetings between officials of both fraternal countries at all party and government levels.

LIBYA

DIE ZEIT Newspaper Interviews Al-Qadhdhafi

DW280755 Hamburg DIE ZEIT in German 28 Nov 86 pp 9-13

[Interview with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi by editors Theo Sommer and Jochen Steinmayr in the reception tent of his headquarters in Libya "a week ago"]

[Text] *Die Zeit*: Colonel, the world does not always understand you. We would like to understand you better.

One of the most important events this year was the U.S. bombing of Tripoli and Banghazi. What were the consequences of that incident? What were you personally doing the day and night of the bombardment?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Viewing the events today I would say that the shameful situation that Reagan and his gang are in now began precisely in that night of aggression. That teaches everybody a lesson. It teaches us that whenever such methods are used things always end up like that. Hitler also ended in tragedy because of his methods; the same applies to Mussolini. Zionism will end equally tragically because it uses the same methods. Every reasonable person would never use such methods because they always end up in disaster.

Die Zeit: What in your view is tragic about President Reagan's situation?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Reagan's present situation cannot be compared with the situation of a normal individual, let alone that of a statesman. His situation is lousy. It would have been better for him if he had died.

Die Zeit: That is a very personal judgment. Not everybody in America and Europe shares your view.

Al-Qadhdhafi: For how many days have you been here?

Die Zeit: For 4 days.

Al-Qadhdhafi: Maybe you are isolated from international news.

Die Zeit: We have heard nothing during the last 3 days. What has happened?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I am not making personal statements now; I am giving you the facts. Yesterday former security adviser McFarlane disclosed the facts. He explained everything. He said that Reagan was like a child and immature. He even said that Reagan did not know the U.S. laws. He said he was unqualified and did not deserve to be U.S. President. Secretary of State George Shultz denied having known anything about the Iran affair. However, it has been proved that he did know. Both parties — Republicans as well as Democrats — are also opposed to Reagan. They told him that the attack against Libya was a mistake. They told him that he had become involved in dangerous things without knowing what he was doing.

Die Zeit: Do you believe that your relationship with the United States can be repaired?

Al-Qadhdhafi: After Reagan, certainly. Reagan's successor will learn some lessons from his policy. He will respect us. I think that under a new President our relations will improve. The condition we make is that there be no high position for an Israeli in the National Security Council or the Department of State.

Die Zeit: Do you mean a Jew or an Israeli?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Every Jew is an Israeli.

Die Zeit: Not under any circumstances. Some Jews are German or U.S. citizens — Henry Kissinger, for instance. In your view, could Kissinger be security adviser again?

Al-Qadhdhafi: That would mean that Israel would have a man in the U.S. security apparatus.

Die Zeit: Your friend Kreisky is also a Jew.

Al-Qadhdhafi: His brother lives in Israel. He is Israeli because he is a Jew.

Die Zeit: Colonel, how was it possible at all for the Americans to fly their bombing missions unhindered? Did you not anticipate anything? Was there no advance warning?

Al-Qadhdhafi: We never believed and we never expected the whole NATO alliance to launch an attack on a small country and even a single family. The plan was to kill me and my family.

Die Zeit: That was not a NATO plan. Except for Margaret Thatcher, NATO learned about the operation only subsequently.

Al-Qadhdhafi: The two big powers, the United States and Great Britain, took part in the attack. The U.S. 6th Fleet, which carried out the attack, has bases in Spain and Italy.

Die Zeit: The attack was largely carried out from Great Britain.

Al-Qadhdhafi: The attack consisted of two parts. On the one hand, it was carried out by the 6th Fleet and on the other, from Great Britain. Banghazi was attacked by aircraft of the 6th Fleet. The other combat aircraft came from the United States. We are a small country. We do not have the technical facilities that NATO has for advance warning. The Soviet Union also told us that they had no knowledge of the attack.

Die Zeit: The Soviets reportedly were informed by the Americans. At any rate, they withdrew their military advisers in time.

Al-Qadhdhafi: That is not correct. The advisers were not withdrawn. If it were true, if it is true, it would affect the Soviet Union's credibility toward its friends and allies.

Die Zeit: The attack was preceded by months of controversies, including even personal attacks, between President Reagan and Colonel al-Qadhdhafi. Did you consider it possible for the Americans to venture a bombardment?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Generally, I do not view Reagan as President. I despise him. I do not respect him. I think he is a very mean character.

Die Zeit: How did you personally spend the night of the attack? What happened to your family? We saw some of the ruins yesterday.

Al-Qadhdhafi: I was in my house. My family was asleep. I was watching the situation because we expected some attack. However, we had expected an attack on military targets, not on my house and my family.

Die Zeit: What happened to your family?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Of course, the attack was focused on our house. The walls fell down on my family and the children. I was busy carrying the children down and saving my family from the ruins. Then I went to the military operations center. I realized that the attack was launched by a coward, not by a courageous man. It was not a fair fight but the attack of a cowardly individual who had sent his strategic aircraft from faraway America.

Die Zeit: Many people in the FRG are under the impression that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi also has not always used decent means. We are referring to the problem of international terrorism. In the Federal Republic Reagan's action was denounced. However, many people also said that those who support crimes like the explosions at the Vienna and Rome airports or the bomb attack on the West Berlin "La Belle" discotheque, should not be surprised that the Americans strike back.

Al-Qadhdhafi: There is no evidence of Libya's involvement in those terrorist attacks. It is clear now that Libya has nothing at all to do with them — neither in Rome, nor in Vienna, nor in Berlin. We have always said that we have nothing to do with those attacks.

Die Zeit: As for "La Belle," that is not the Bonn government's view. The Federal Government has said that there were radio messages between the Libyan People's Bureau in East Berlin and some headquarters in Tripoli. It proves that the action was directed by Libya and that an hour after the explosion the execution of the operation was reported — both by radio messages. While that may not have been testified to in court, the Federal Government assumes that Libyan authorities were involved in the affair.

Al-Qadhdhafi: We as a state know nothing about those things.

Die Zeit: What do you mean by "as a state?" Are there any private organizations or subordinate authorities in Tripoli which could know about them?

Al-Qadhdhafi: If a citizen of a state commits a crime is the state of that man reponsible for the crime or the man himself? German citizens have repeatedly attacked U.S. military facilities in the Federal Republic. Does that give the United States the right to attack Germany?

Die Zeit: But the RAF [Red Army Faction] terrorists whom you call "German citizens" did not use the radio sets of German embassies in preparation for their actions.

Al-Qadhdhafi: We doubt your version.

Die Zeit: What is Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's present stance on what we call terrorism?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I support the peoples' freedom struggle. Nothing can change my mind about that, even if I have to take the blame. However, we do reject terrorism.

Die Zeit: So would you say that the attack on the "La Belle" discotheque is a terrorist act that cannot be approved of?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I cannot judge that. I have no knowledge about who carried out an attack on whom there. Perhaps it was carried out by Germans against the U.S. soldiers who are in Germany as occupiers. In my view that is the people's resistance against their occupiers. That is probably the best and most logical explanation. The Americans should have bombed Germany instead of Libya (laughing).

Die Zeit: You support freedom movements throughout the world morally and financially — ranging from the IRA in Northern Ireland and ETA in Spain to the Muslim guerrillas in the Philippines. Do you also support the mujahidin's freedom movement in Afghanistan, even though it fights against your Soviet friends?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I see in what is happening in Afghanistan a confrontation between the Americans and the Soviets, because the United States finances the military struggle. However, I cannot support those who are financed by the United States.

Die Zeit: Do you not believe that it is not without reason that almost 3 million Muslims have fled from Afghanistan to Pakistan?

Al-Qadhdhafi: They flee from the war.

Die Zeit: How about your relationship with the Soviet Union? Is it correct that Libya wants to become a Warsaw Pact member?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Our relations are good.

Die Zeit: Again — Are you considering becoming a Warsaw Pact member?

Al-Qadhdhafi: We are considering it.

Die Zeit: Are the Soviets also contemplating it?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Yes. If the United States continues to launch such crazy attacks with destructive weapons and commits such crimes, we consider doing that.

Die Zeit: How do you view Libya's role in international politics?

Al-Qadhdhafi: From now on, Libya will play a very great and positive role in international politics, the reason being that Libya will introduce a new international theory: the theory of the people's state, the state of the masses, the jamahiriyah. That theory of the people is of course in contrast to the theory which prevails in the world today, the theory of the governments. Libya will be admired by all revolutionary forces of the Arab world. Thus the fate of the Arab world will be decided. Libya has the longest coast on the Mediterranean. Thus it will constitute a decisive force in the Mediterranean region.

Die Zeit: There is no indication that there are many emulators or admirers of your ideas in the Arab world. In fact, the Arab world is divided and not in agreement.

Al-Qadhdhafi: All young people will adopt the green idea. For the moment the admiration and acceptance of our ideas still exists underground. That holds true not only for the Arab region but for the whole world. Young people everywhere, including in Germany and the United States, support the third universal theory. They believe in it. The Green Book will be the bible of our modern age.

Die Zeit: There is a political movement in the FRG called "the Greens." However, it has very little to do with the Green Book and the ideas it contains.

Al-Qadhdhafi: In the future there will be a uniform green movement in the whole world. I support the Greens in Germany without any reservation. I consider this movement an expression of our ideas and opinions.

Die Zeit: The Egyptian revolutionary Gamal Abd al-Nasir said once about the Arab Islamic world that he wished to succeed in reconciling the Arab world, but that he considered it impossible to reconcile the whole Islamic world.

Al-Qadhdhafi: What is your question?

Die Zeit: The Green Book, the implementation of the ideas contained therein presupposes a perfect mankind that does not exist.

Al-Qadhdhafi: Perfect mankind does not exist — up to now. However, it is the desired prospect. Development should go in that direction. The real goal at the moment is the unification of the Arab world. I consider this my supreme task.

Die Zeit: You have concluded many unions with Arab states. None lasted for long. Do you think that your unification policy will be more successful in the future?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I do not consider the unification attempts with other Arab states as failed. They were vanguards, vanguards of real Arab unity.

Die Zeit: Let us discuss your Green Book. Where did you get your ideas from? What philosophers did you read? Do your ideas come only from the Koran or are there other sources? How did you write the book? Did you sit in a desert tent writing it by hand or did you dictate the text?

Al-Qadhdhafi: First, I studied history, philosophy, and psychology, and I also studied the real situation of mankind. I do that all the time. I study reality. I see always most clearly why this person is unhappy and the other happy, why this person cries and the other laughs, why this person is rich and the other poor. I have studied direct relations between people in an uncomplicated society. I compared it with a class society.

Die Zeit: Does this term come from Marxism? Did you read Karl Marx at all?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I consider Marxism a step to get mankind ahead. I consider the universal theory a second step after Marxism. The Green Book comes after Marx.

Die Zeit: After that comes nothing else? Yet everything is changing constantly. Every theory is developing further. New theories come up and new needs.

Al-Qadhdhafi: Well, the final point is jamahiriya. It is possible that we may overshoot the mark on the way to jamahiriya and end up in a demagogical state where every person does what he wants.

Die Zeit: In anarchy?

Al-Qadhdhafi: More than anarchy — confusion. Second, we may stick with that government system, then we will not achieve jamahiriya. In any case jamahiriya is the model we aim for. Should we overshoot it to the confusion system, then we must go back. If we do not reach it we must try to get to it.

Die Zeit: The British say: The proof of the pudding is in the eating. A theory must be demonstrated in pratice. Do you believe that with your Green Book theory you have made your people happy? Do you think you can solve their economic problems that way?

Al-Qadhdhafi: That cannot be judged after just a few years. Mankind must first change in the course of an age.

The current situation of the Libyan people is the best in the whole world that is not ruled or dominated by a power. It is the only people that holds the power itself.

Die Zeit: Really? Is not there the will of the great leader and the apparatus of the great leader that passes that will to the masses?

Al-Qadhdhafi: It is my will to urge the people to execute the power. I do not have an administrative or a political role. I do not sign a resolution or a decree.

Die Zeit: However, you have the final say in the country. You can dismiss or appoint every individual.

Al-Qadhdhafi: That is not possible. There is no law permitting it. The laws or political resolutions all come from the people's congresses where all people participate. These laws or resolutions are implemented by people's committees that have been elected by the people's congresses. There are only people's congresses and people's committees. There is nothing else.

Die Zeit: There are also revolutionary committees. What is their role? The Green Book said nothing about them.

Al-Qadhdhafi: The revolutionary committees are there to bring the people to power.

Die Zeit: Also to control the people?

Al-Qadhdhafi: If they find something that is directed against the power of the people, the revolutionary committees will point it out to the people so that the people's congresses can take care of it.

Die Zeit: We consider the revolutionary committees a mixture of state, party, and secret police. What are they supposed to be?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Your picture is incorrect. The correct one is that this is a revolutionary force that comes from the people, from the masses. It urges the masses to execute power. It is against the power of the intelligence apparatus. Every organization that is against the masses will by these committees... [as published]

Die Zeit: Let us take a completely different practical question: the oil price. Some 2 years ago Libya made $22 billion, last year it was $10 billion, this year it will be only $5 billion. Can a big group of people ever decide on such a problem?

Al-Qadhdhafi: This question has nothing to do with the revolutionary committees.

Die Zeit: But how about the decisionmaking processes? The people's congress certainly cannot deal with the oil price. Or does it discuss Libya's involvement in Chad, for instance? Who decides on such matters?

Al-Qadhdhafi: The oil price is a matter of supply and demand on the world market. The people decide on the country's budget and the individual allocations. Like legislation, all those things are decided by the people.

Die Zeit: For example, is the question of whether or not Libya should interefere in Chad publicly discussed? Is the question publicly discussed of whether it would not be better to make the money for such an operation available for the domestic economy?

Al-Qadhdhafi: There is no interference in Chad. When the people's power was established the Libyan people decided that freedom movements should be supported and the country's borders defended.

Die Zeit: You have a great vision in mind. Is Colonel al-Qadhdhafi a prophet? Or who is he? How does he see himself?

Al-Qadhdhafi: You can say, I am a prophet of peace and freedom. I am also a prophet of a new era, the era of the masses.

Die Zeit: Did you have the feeling of being a prophet already as a child?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I am doing what in my view benefits mankind. That is my only interpretation.

Die Zeit: Prophets and theorists always have also to cope with the realities of life. We have been in your country 3 and 1/2 days now. What strikes the observer is the fact that whatever is modern here is built by foreign workers and firms. Does that not contradict the phrase against slave work in the Green Book: "The work in the house is done by those who live in it?"

Al-Qadhdhafi (laughing): That is a jamahiriyah for the masses throughout the world. We do not think in the narrow terms of "Libyans" and "non-Libyans." We do not think in such categories. If German citizens come to us because they want to live in freedom, without a government and without a system suppressing them, they can come and live here. We do not say that because they are Germans they must leave.

Die Zeit: Most of them come as workers or business representatives. They come as long as Libya can afford to pay for their work. For the moment Libya is in economic difficulties. Not all bills are paid, or they are not paid promptly. How is your country's development supposed to continue?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Libya will not suffer from the world economic crisis because Libya is a small country where there is no exploitation.

Die Zeit: But there are payment problems.

Al-Qadhdhafi: The Western companies have been harmed by the crisis, not Libya.

Die Zeit: Certainly, because Libya does not pay.

Al-Qadhdhafi: Who is to blame for that? We?

Die Zeit: That is a dubious way of doing business — profitable, but dubious.

Al-Qadhdhafi: There is a crisis in the oil market. Therefore, we cannot pay. The oil price has extraordinarily fallen. When it rises again the foreign companies will profit. Their bills are paid; they get everything that is due to them. They even get new orders for the future.

Die Zeit: Do you advocate higher oil prices?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Yes, I do.

Die Zeit: What would you consider to be an adequate price per barrel?

Al-Qadhdhafi: No less than $30.

Die Zeit: No less than $30?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Yes. Libya is ready to shut down its oil production until the oil prices are reasonably high. Libya can stop its oil production for several years.

Die Zeit: But at the expense of its own peopole.

Al-Qadhdhafi: No, on the contrary. Our people want to keep their oil rather than sell it at a loss.

Die Zeit: Okay, but the Libyan people must eat now, and Colonel al-Qadhdhafi must pay for his weapons now. So a minimum of revenue is indispensable.

Al-Qadhdhafi: We do not live on oil. We also lived before oil was produced.

Die Zeit: Following the 14 April attack, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi had disappeared — at least that was our impression. It has been rumored that he is depressed or depressive, an unhappy man who is withdrawing or has to withdraw from politics. It has also been rumored that he is sick. How would he personally describe his state of health and his state of mind?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I am unhappy at the state of affairs in the world. The world lives in a jungle today. Violence has become law and suppression has become the usual practice. People have no character, they are corrupt. Peace, freedom, and happiness are threatened by many dangers.

The U.S. bombing raid has challenged me even more. After the raid I was busy building my country again and improving the military protection of its borders, because I had realized that we live in a lawless jungle. However, the Libyans know me and see me and are aware that I always live among them. When the time came for me to become active again, I became active — in Africa and elsewhere in the world following the Harare conference. Because Reagan himself was depressed he said that Al-Qadhdhafi is depresed or unhappy or sick.

Die Zeit: You said, the people see Al-Qadhdhafi. The people do not see much of him. Paradoxically, in the country of the masses there are many pictures of an individual man in very different uniforms and poses. It says in the Green Book: The bedouins mock at dramatic or theatrical behavior. Are not all the Al-Qadhdhafi posters a bit theatrical?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I do not like to be in the limelight, nor do I like gossip and gabble. But that is how people are. I have repeatedly seen pictures of myself on walls and have had them removed. However, that is against what the people want who put those posters on the walls.

Die Zeit: A very unpolitical, personal question: What does the desert mean to you? What does rain mean to you?

Al-Qadhdhafi (laughing): They are the origin of nature. First there is the desert, and the rain falls and makes the land green and fertile. The nature of the desert teaches man many truths. Man can also withdraw from this modern world and go into the desert and feel almost like the first man of creation.

Al-Qadhdhafi on Iran-Iraq Killing of Civilians

LD271859 Tripoli JANA in English 1758 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Harth 27, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — In the process of answering a question from JANA on the mass annihilation of the Palestinians in Lebanon on the hands of the Shi'ite "despair" gangs, the leader of the revolution said:

"Allegation about the presence of the Yasir 'Arafat group has become an apt excuse to annihilate the Palestinian presence in Lebanon on the hands of the Shi'ite Amal gangs. We have to be transformed into children or simple-minded people to the extent that such silly excuses convince us."

And on the bombing of homes and the killing of civilians in the Iraq-Iran war, the leader of the revolution explained to JANA: "The bombing of homes and the killing of civilians, whether it is done by Iran or Iraq, is a cowardly act which the revolutionary forces and people's masses anywhere in the world denounce, for it is the same method Reagan and the Zionists use."

Radio Comments on 'Scandals' of Iranian Arms Deal

LD270046 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The U.S. Administration has not witnessed throughout its successive dark ages a darker stage than it is witnessing these days following the resounding international scandals brought about by the Mosad dog, Reagan, when he misled the pillars of his regime and disgraced them in a cheap way, leading them to the abyss of political disgrace, and then sat, destroyed, to reap what his hands had sown after the unearthing of the scandal and its spreading all over the world.

Once the bad smell had spread, every official in the Black House rushed to deny his relations with what was happening in secret, and the halls of the Black House, Congress, the National Security Council, the CIA, and the Pentagon witnessed unprecedented hysteria. There was a hot exchange of accusations, wholesale resignations, an open exchange of curses, beginning with the President and extending to those below him, and it seemed that the pillars of this house, which is nothing more than a sinkhole of corruption, began to crack as never before; the failed act totally collapsed, and all the experienced kitchen cabinets were unable to conceal this earth-shattering disaster which has hastened Reagan's end, 2 years before the end of his second term of office.

The behavior of this man indicates that he will lead his country to the abyss and that, contrary to all the illusions he was able to make the naive in his country believe in, he will lead his country to serious perils, he will strip it before the world, and he will lose what is left of its face, that is, if history has left it with any face, and if this face can actually feel embarrassed. The symbols of

U.S. policy, which is based on aggression and intrigue, stood together and passed one by one in front of the congressional Foreign Relations Committee and gave testimonies full of falsification and lies, and they were not slow in double-crossing each other, each trying to put the ball in the court of his colleague, but the eyes of the world which have been fixed on the United States since the scandal broke and which have been monitoring this big collapse, were taken by suprise by this big collapse which, contrary to all predictions, came too early. The national security adviser of the Mosad's dog resigned, and hardly had this news reached the world on the radio when it was followed by the news of the resignation of his assistant.

And the collapse continues. Radio stations are still on full alert, ready to report more resignations and to cover news of dismissals until the end comes with the fall of this failed act whose hands were stained with the blood of victims and the innocent and his face covered with the shame which he had brought upon the history of his nation. Thus he will go, being sent off with a curse, accompanied by the anger of millions all over the world, as the ugliest American to reach the presidency, and who gave an example of haphazardness, cowardice, and antipathy to the most serious issues of peace and security in the world which the peoples of the world are striving to achieve.

This is the comedy of the age, the most imaginative farce; writers cannot achieve this level of farce and ridicule played by Reagan and those with him on the stage of international politics. Reports continue to arrive of millions [of dollars] reaching the rightist gangs in Nicaragua provided by U.S. intelligence without anyone knowing about them and without even going back to Reagan himself, as he claimed today; and he washed his hands of these suspect deals. Thus no one knows anymore in the face of the contradictory statements where the truth ends and lies begin, or where lies end and truth begins. The scandal of this agreement and this generous spending on the rightist gangs in Nicaragua poured oil on the fire and further increased the repercussions of the scandal which has become more serious so quickly that it is difficult to follow its news in order.

In the face of this fever, one goes back to the analysis of the brother leader of the revolution when he reached the conviction that this man — and this is since the start of Reagan's first term of office — is no more than a joker, below the level of responsibility, and that the scandals which will explodein his era will be more resounding than any other scandals in the world. One goes back to the analysis of the leader of the revolution when he said at the start of Reagan's second term of office that the age of this man is not much more than the age of a chick hatched mechanically, and that his end will be bad. And here he is shaking even before the middle of his second term of office, and the predictions of the leader of the revolution concerning those who were transformed into animals and who are imposed on international politics, because they are predictions based on science and the revolutionary event, rightly diagnose the malady, and point with reason to the causes and the results which, if they do not happen today will happen tomorrow. [passage ommitted]

This is the inevitable end of every aggressor; history will have no mercy on him, nor will his people.

MOROCCO

Turkish Assembly Speaker Meets King Hassan

TA260848 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 2100 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Turkish Grand National Assembly Speaker Necmettin Karaduman, currently on a visit to Morocco at the head of a parliamentary delegation, has met with King Hassan II of Morocco. Turkish Radio and Television correspondent Senar Byburt reports from Rabat that during the meeting, Karaduman submitted to the king a verbal message from President Kenan Evren expressing his desire to visit Morocco. In response, King Hassan II said he would be happy to host the Turkish president in his country. He remarked that Turkey is strong enough to settle its differences with its neighboring countries.

Expressing his wish that relations between Turkey and Morocco be an example to other Islamic countries, the king said that these relations are rooted in history. He expressed his pleasure over Turkish moves toward restoring democracy, adding that he appreciates these efforts.

In turn, Karaduman pointed out that Turkey attaches great importance to the issue of democracy, which it considers a primordial process. He said that no political problems exist between the two countries, adding that he appreciates efforts by King Hassan II on behalf of the cause of peace.

Laraki Receives Danish Foreign Minister

LD270252 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Prime Minister Azzedine Laraki this evening received Danish Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen, who was accompanied by a delegation. Their talks, which were held in a friendly atmosphere, dealt with various political and economic topics of mutual interest. The two sides also reviewed the prospects for consolidating the cooperation between the two countries in all fields, and stressed their determination to expand the aspects of such cooperation. The talks also dealt with the international situation as well as the future of Morocco's relations with the ECC.

The meeting was attended by the prime minister's closest aides, the director of European and American affairs at the Foreign Ministry, and the Danish ambassador in Rabat.

SUDAN

Interior Minister Says Garang 'Seriously Wounded'

NC261556 Paris AFP in English 1446 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, Nov 26 (AFP) — Sudanese rebel leader John Garang has been "seriously wounded" in a fight with rival members of his Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), Sudanese Interior Minister Sayyid Ahad al-Husayn has said in a newspaper interview published in Egypt on Wednesday.

Mr. al-Husayn said Colonel Garang had "lost all support since elements loyal to him shot down an aircraft on August 16, killing 60 civilians."

The Sudan Air passenger plane was shot down over southern Sudan, where the SPLA is active.

There has been no reaction from the rebels on Mr. al-Husayn's interview, which was given during an official visit to Egypt. Mr. al-Husayn gave no indication of when the fight in which Mr Garang was allegedly wounded took place.

He said the SPLA would "be totally defeated in the end."

Ambassador to Ethiopia Says Garang Dead

JN262100 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 24 Nov 86 pp 1, 8

[Text] Khartoum — *Al-Ittihad* — In a statement to *Al-Ittihad*, Sudan's Ambassador to Ethiopia 'Uthman al-Nafi' has announced that Colonel John Garang, the rebel movement leader, was killed and that the reports he has received from Addis Ababa confirm this. Al-Nafi', who was summoned to Khartoum by his government, said that the movement's stalemate, its current military and political isolation, the splits within it, and the lack of news about Garang on the organization's radio confirm Garang's death.

John Garang's movement denied the death of its leader the day before yesterday and affirmed that he would hold a news conference in Addis Ababa in the near future.

Army Destroys Rebel Camp, Killing 86

EA262359 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 2130 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] The people's Armed Forces destroyed a rebel camp in Jur area, western Terakeka, when they attacked the camp last week. Eighty-six rebels, including the camp commander and three officers, were killed. A number of others were injured. Seven members of the Armed Forces were martyred in the battle. Large amounts of ammunition, Kalashnikov rifles, and other guns were captured.

Paper Cited on Al-Mahdi, Al-Turabi Meeting

JN261154 Khartoum SUNA in English 1030 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Khartoum Nov 26 (SUNA) — Negotiations between the government and the opposition led by the Islamic National Front on the national issues will soon be resumed, Premier al-Sadiq al-Mahdi told the daily *Al-Sudani* issued here today.

Al-Mahdi and leader of the Islamic National Front Hasan al-Turabi have conferred here and reviewed some national issues, among them the question of the southern Sudan and the implementation of Shari'a laws, but their talks were postponed due to the recent student demonstrations which were stirred by the Islamic National Front as official sources said.

The daily quoted Al-Mahdi as reaffirming the setback in the talks will not continue and the government will spare no effort in solving the national questions.

The prime minister pointed out that the government was waiting for the participation of all the political forces in the proposed constitutional conference, adding that "we expect the participation of all the political parties in solving the southern cause by presenting papers on the suitable means of holding the conference."

London Paper Interviews Interior Minister

PM261625 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 21 Nov 86 p 3

[Unattributed report on interview with Sayyid Ahmad al-Husayn, minister of interior and deputy secretary general of the Democratic Unionist Party, in Khartoum; date not given]

[Text] Khartoum, *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* bureau — Sayyid Ahmad al-Husayn, Sudanese minister of the interior and deputy secretary general of the Democratic Unionist Party, will shortly begin a tour to Egypt, Kuwait, and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. This tour was postponed because of the recent student incidents in Khartoum and because of other political and security issues. On this occasion *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* has conducted a comprehensive interview with Al-Husayn covering the tour, the student demonstrations, the controversial constitutional changes, and the security and political developments on the Sudanese borders. The following is the text of his talk about his expected visit to Saudi Arabia. He said: First, I must talk about Sudanese-Saudi relations in general; I would say that King Fahd gives special consideration to Sudan to a degree that makes me strongly believe that he stands by Sudan's side with heart and soul in everything. At the level of the Ministry of the Interior there is complete understanding between us and His Highness Prince Nayif Bin Abd al-Aziz, minister of the interior, and senior ministry officials, who devote all their attention to all the joint issues and have generously supported the Sudanese Ministry of the Interior in the past during the transitional period, and we are now expecting bigger support for reconstructing it.

Al-Husayn also said: The agreement between us on fighting smuggling, drugs, and crimes is complete and comprehensive, and an invitation was sent to me to visit the Kingdom which I will carry out after the return of Prince Nayif from his visit to France and following my visit to Egypt. Consultations will take place on everything of concern to both countries, and in addition we will implement all the agreed measures in respect of fighting smuggling.

On the recent student incidents Minister al-Husayn clarified that the demonstrations, which lasted for 4 days in different areas of the capital, had no justification at all. It is true that there are some shortages in some commodities such as meat and cigarettes, but there are reasons for these shortages, namely the government's concentration on the success of the agricultural season, which is an issue it has faced since its formation. The government had to concentrate its expenditure on providing agricultural crops and on pest control. We have already succeeded in providing a productive climate as more than 26 million feddans have been cultivated, and we have also managed to control locusts and other pests. The government has also concentrated on fighting the phenomenon of smuggling, so there are now no means available for smuggling any commodities into the country. These things are perhaps behind those shortages and among their causes. The government has decided to stop exporting so that the local market can provide the meat required, but there are some parties which want to fight the government and the public interest by trying to dry up the market of commodities and raise prices, using naive students to go out on demonstrations although those parties know that the country's interest requires supporting the government's stand, not attacking it. Undoubtedly, these parties, which are behind these demonstrations, are the remains of the toppled regime, as they want to confirm and solidly establish the hateful past. They even try to bring it back, but the government's eyes are watchful and watch those who agitate our students. Some of them have been arrested and the investigation is still being conducted.

On the criticisms directed at the bill of constitutional changes which the government intends to present to the Constitutional Assembly, he said that they are legitimate changes and do not harm or reduce public freedom but are intended to enable the legislative authority to remove the traces of the toppled regime and those who oppose the changes because they are unaware of their facts and essence. The changes are intended to remove the traces of May and to restore the usurped rights of the people by enabling the authorities to issue the necessary laws.

As for the effects of the incidents which took place among the Eritreans in the city of Kassala, the Sudanese minister of the interior said that the incident of the car explosion in Kassala is a transient matter and we have carried out all measures, investigations, and inquiries as the two Eritreans accused have admitted that they planned the incident and committed that crime. The investigation is still continuing to reveal whether there is another motive behind it. We have taken all precautions to prevent such acts from happening in the future. However, we will not allow Sudan to become a stage for settling disputes because it is in the Sudanese people's nature to avoid such terrorist acts, and the proof of this is the success of their revolution in October and April without any bloodshed worth mentioning. If this is the habit of the Sudanese people, there is no way they will allow their area to be used for settling disputes. As for organizing the refugees in camps, taking the measures necessary for this matter, which are not simple, requires many procedures and preparations before actually starting with these measures. Efforts are being made in this respect.

During his interview with *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* the Sudanese minister of the interior referred to developments on the various Sudanese borders, stressing that Sudan's firm policy is to work at all levels on the basis of good-neighborliness and this is what it always works for; but as for support and sponsorship for the rebel movement inside the Ethiopian territory, that is an act that contradicts this policy despite Sudan's endeavors to improve relations with the neighbor Ethiopia, although the Ethiopian-Sudanese Committee's meeting has been postponed by the Ethiopians. A new date has not yet been fixed but efforts are being made in this respect.

As for Uganda, mutual suspicions and accusations have been eliminated and the joint committees are now concentrating on carrying out their work, although we received notification of the postponement of the joint meetings which were to be held last month. This is because Uganda has declared mourning for the late Mozambican President Samora Machel. In fact the borders between the two countries have been open since my return from Uganda and since the committee for the control of borders commenced its duties. From our side, we have declared our readiness for returning the military helicopter with which some Ugandan military officials fled following President Museveni's seizure of power. A Ugandan mission actually came to Juba to collect it but the security conditions in the south did not permit it. That helicopter and other equipment are now avalable for the Ugandan Government to collect whenever it wants.

National Unionist Party Leader Attacked

JN261221 Khartoum SUNA in English 1050 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Khartoum, Nov 26 (SUNA) — The leader of the National Unionist Party 'Ali Mahmud Hasanayn was attacked last night at his house by an armed group in an attempt to assassinate him, the daily *Al-Sudani* paper reported today. The paper described the incident as "the first in political history."

The general director of the national capital Khartoum police headquarters told *Al-Sudani* that "the security forces have arrested the four-man armed group."

It is worth mentioning that Hasanayn is one of the widely famous advocators in the Sudan and a prominent unionist leader who was arrested several times by the overthrown government of Numayri for his anti-Numayri activities.

After April revolution in 1985 Hasanayn split from the Democratic Unionist Party, the counterpart of Al-Ummah Party in the coalition government founded by the late leader Isma'il al-Azhari.

WESTERN SAHARA

Polisario Warns EEC on Moroccan Fishing Agreement

LD262257 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] In the Western Sahara, a warning from the Polisario given to the countries of the EEC. Jean-Karim Fal reports:

[Fal] This warning by the Polisario Front is given to the EEC if the latter signs a fishing agreement with Morocco, which includes the territorial waters of the Western Sahara. The Polisario makes it clear that it will attack boats that come close to the Saharan coast. This warning is included in a letter from SDAR President Mohamed Abdelaziz addressed to the EEC ministers.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Receives Message From Al-Qadhdhafi

EA270000 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the WPE Central Committee, chairman of the PMAC and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, today received a message from Brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great al-Fatih revolution of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. The message from Brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi was presented to the comrade secretary general of the People's Committee for Public Service during a meeting held at the WPE secretary general's special office this morning.

The meeting was attended by Comrade Berhanu Bayeh, member of the WPE Central Committee Politburo and foreign minister, and Brother Khalifa Bazelya, secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau in Revolutionary Ethiopia.

Eritreans Claim 10 Ethiopian Soldiers Killed

EA251237 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Amharic 0500 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] The heroic combatants of our engineering corps have blown up four Dergue vehicles. Two of the vehicles were destroyed near (Azreket). Five of the soldiers inside the vehicles were killed and five others were wounded. The other two vehicles were destroyed on the left flank of the Nakfa front and between Hargigo and (Gedem). Five of the soldiers in those two vehicles were killed and seven others were wounded.

SOMALIA

DFSS Meeting Ends; Executive Committee Changed

EA281147 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1700 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Excerpts] The first session of the DFSS [Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia] Central Committee meeting at its central headquarters ended officially 26 November. The meeting began 11 November and lasted 15 days. During this time proposals were debated honestly and with special dynamism. The participants tried their best to endorse resolutions that will serve the best interests of the struggle. During the meeting the DFSS Executive Committee was changed.

The meeting passed resolutions to intensify the political and armed struggle to save the Somali nation, which is on the brink of collapse. It called on all the Somali people to play their sacred role. It appealed to the Somali opposition forces to tackle as soon as possible the ever-increasing problems being caused inside the country by Mohammad Siad Barre's regime. It called on them to do their best to unify unconditionally the Somali opposition forces made up of the SNM [Somali National Movement] and the DFSS. The DFSS Central Committee members unanimously called for the immediate implementation of this merger. [passage omitted]

During the meeting all the Executive Committee members were changed with the exception of the chairman and deputy chairman. The following appointments were made:

DFSS Chairman Dr Hasan Haji Ali Mire also becomes secretary of defense.
Abdullahi Haji Ilmi becomes secretary of foreign affairs.
Mohamed Ismail Baribari becomes secretary of information.
Hassan Ali Yusuf Garabey becomes secretary of justice and religious affairs.
Abd al-Razaq Shaykh Ahmad Ali becomes secretary of political and mobilization affairs.
Nur Adam Yusuf Gadhwene becomes secretary of financial affairs.
Dr Bashir Ali Bihi becomes secretary of social affairs.
The officials in charge of (?stores) were also changed: Abdullahi Haji Ahmad HABEB becomes the new secretary and Abd al-Rahman Shire Warsame becomes his assistant.

God willing, we will inform you in detail of the other resolutions passed.

Radio Halgan Reports Recent SNM Operations

EA250100 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1700 GMT 24 Nov 86

[Text] SNM [Somali National Movement] fighters have carried out a number of operations inside the country over the past few weeks. Four soldiers and one officer serving in forces loyal to the regime at Aubakhadleh village in Hargeisa district were killed on 21 November. These SNM units had earlier fought battles at Goo village in Sheeleh district, Togdheer region and at Odweyne town, also in Togdheer region. The fighting took place on the 11th of this month. Heavy losses were inflicted on the regime's soldiers. Reports from the eastern wing say that the fighters returned safely. Three soldiers belonging to forces loyal to the regime were killed and six others were injured when SNM fighters in the south western regions launched an attack on the (Dido Ano) village base in Lugh district of Gedo region on 9 November.

UGANDA

NRA Commander Cites Heavy Rebel Casualties

EA251236 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Commander Elly Tumwine of the National Resistance Army, NRA, says the current NRA offensive in northern Uganda has caused heavy casualties among the rebels and severely reduced their military capacity. Talking with the *New Vision* newspaper, Commander Tumwine further disclosed that preparations are underway to deal effectively with the disturbances in northeastern Uganda. The NRA chief confirmed the departure of the British military training team and said the Tanzanian Army will now be assisting with some special training. Some army personnel will also be sent to Kenya for training.

CAMEROON

PRC Government Delegation Arrives for Visit

AB262151 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] A Chinese Government delegation led by PRC State Council Councillor Zhang Jingfu arrived in Yaounde this afternoon at the invitation of the president. This Chinese delegation, which will spend 4 days in Cameroon, was welcomed at the capital's airport by Cameroonian foreign affairs and plan ministers.

CONGO

Cooperation Discussed With Iranian Minister

AB251655 Dakar PANA in French 1306 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Brazzaville, 25 Nov (ACI/PANA) — Mojaba Mirmehdi, Iranian deputy minister of foreign affairs, held discussions on Tuesday in Brazzaville with Antoine Odinga-Oba, Congolese minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, on the possibilities for bilateral cooperation.

The conclusion of the visit by the Iranian deputy minister, who arrived in the Congolese capital on Monday, will be crowned on Tuesday evening by a joint statement.

Iran's Mirmehdi Conveys Message

LD271251 Tehran IRNA in English 0609 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Tehran, Nov 27, IRNA — Iran's deputy foreign minister for legal and parliamentary affairs, Mojaba Mirmehdi, conveyed the oral message of Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi to his Congolese counterpart, Ange Edouard Poungui in Brazzavile Tuesday.

During the meeting, the Congolese prime minister praised Iran's role in supporting liberation campaigns in Africa.

Issues of mutual interest and regional and international events were also discussed in the meeting.

Mirmehdi, heading a delegation, left Tehran for a number of East African countries on Nov. 13.

BURKINA FASO

CNR National General Secretariat Reorganized

AB261432 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
0700 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] After 3 years of operation, the National General Secretariat of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR's] has just been reorganized. Under a decree passed by the CNR [National Council of the Revolution] and aimed at achieving three main objectives — namely the efficiency, rationality, and smooth operation of the organization — the body has been reorganized to make it a more effective fighting tool. Here is Captain Pierre Ouedraogo, CDR national secretary general, with the details:

[Begin Ouedraogo recording] The National General Secretariat of CDR's shall now comprise seven political commissioner's offices, a General Inspectorate, and national bureaus.

The political commissioner's offices include the following: The office in charge of popular war, CPGP; the office in charge of agitation and propaganda, CPAP; the office in charge of organization and planning, CPOP; the office in charge of youth activities, CPAJ; the office in charge of external relations, CPRE; the office in charge of economic and social affairs, CPES; and the office in charge of administration and finance, CPAF.

With these seven offices, the CDR National General Secretariat will become a leading body which will initiate and coordinate CDR activities.

The General Inspectorate will enable the National General Secretariat to efficiently play its supervisory role, a role which was called for during the first national conference.

The CDR charter, drawn up on 17 May 1984, did not clarify the function of national bureaus. Their incorporation in the CDR National General Secretariat will solve the problem of coordination and enable their members to participate effectively in the coordination of the activities of the CDR's at the national level. In its new organization, the National General Secretariat, which is the expression of the people's will as stated during the first national conference, will be a decisive asset which will help bring about the expected qualitative change in our revolutionary reorganization at all levels of CDR actions. This will thus eliminate the shortcomings of the current organization which is outdated and enable us to translate into facts the legitimate expectations of the masses. The economic power and the judiciary will thus be fully taken care of. [end recording]

OAU Secretary General Returns; Meets Sankara

AB271055 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
2200 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Thomas Sankara, CNR chairman and president of Burkina Faso, received an OAU delegation this evening led by Secretary General Ide Oumarou. This delegation had already been received last Friday by the CNR chairman and president of Burkina Faso in the framework of the inquiry into the recent events in Togo for which the Togolese authorities have held Burkina Faso and Ghana responsible. From Burkina Faso the delegation went to Accra, Ghana, and Lome, Togo. After the meeting, OAU Secretary General Ide Oumarou told our reporter Colette Tapsoba why his delegation returned to Burkina Faso after its recent visit last Friday.

[Begin Oumarou recording] We are on a mission you already know about. As usual it is a very delicate mission. In view of the present stage of events, President Sankara felt it would be useful for the clarification of Burkina Faso's stand to give us additional facts for our file, and we are very grateful for that. He reasserted his belief in the ability of the OAU to settle the matter and reassured us of his readiness and that of his government and country to strive for peace. This is the assurance he wanted to give us.

I would therefore like to seize this opportunity to say how much we of the OAU appreciate this act of faith. We have prepared a report for the current OAU chairman and, as I said earlier, all the facts have been put together to enable us to determine in what way the OAU can dutifully strive to restore peace to the various parts of Africa and to calm the minds of all to enable our people and governments to fulfill their major task of ensuring the development of our people, and the achievement of independence in political, economic, and other spheres in order to build societies in Africa that are worthy of our aspirations and ambitions. [end recording]

FRG Ambassador Presents Materiel to Armed Forces

AB251640 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
1300 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Excerpt] Cooperation between Burkina Faso and West Germany was enhanced this morning with the presentation of materiel to the military engineering department. The consignment is made up of 25 transport vehicles, engineering equipment made up of tankers, as well as drugs and hospital bedding, all valued at 250 million CFA francs.

While presenting the consignment to the commander of the High Command of the People's Armed Forces, the FRG ambassador expressed the hope that the Burkinabe people will put it to good use. [passage omitted]

GHANA

Cooperation Agreement With Cuba Ratified

AB261417 Accra Domestic Service in English
1300 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Ghana and Cuba have signed and exchanged instruments of ratification on the joint commission for cooperation between them. The chairman of the State Commission for Economic Cooperation, Dr Don Arthur, and the Cuban ambassador to Ghana, Mr Nicolas Rodriguez, signed the agreement in Accra this morning.

Dr Don Arthur said the ceremony marked a concrete step by the two countries to ensure an effective and dynamic cooperation. It completes the legal formalities between them, thus strengthening the basic framework within which they will continue meaningful cooperation in the economic, scientific, technical, and cultural fields. Dr Don Arthur noted that Ghana, like Cuba, is exposed to the unfavorable world environment which had imposed severe economic constraints on her development efforts. He said with these external factors, coupled with the unjust international economic system, it has become imperative for Third World countries to evolve effective measures for collective self-reliance and forge closer economic, technical, and cultural ties among themselves. Dr Don Arthur said the successes so far achieved through the cooperation of the two countries in the fields of education and health are clear indications of their capabilities to meet their aspirations.

Mr Rodrigues on his part was also satisfied with the extent of cooperation between Ghana and Cuba. He announced that three constructional firms have arrived in Ghana to construct prefabricated houses. He expressed the hope that it will not be long when Ghanaians would benefit from cheaper methods of construction. The ambassador disclosed that during the first quarter of next year, several projects currently under discussion will be submitted for approval at the third meeting of the joint commission for cooperation in Havana, Cuba. He emphasized Cuba's readiness to assist Ghana achieve success in her economic, scientific, and technical development.

OAU Secretary General, Delegation Arrive

AB251830 Accra Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] The OAU secretary general, Mr Ide Oumarou, arrived in Accra today for a 2-day goodwill visit to the country. Speaking to newsmen, Mr Oumarou said the visit is part of a series being undertaken by the secretariat to foster closer links among member-countries. Mr Oumarou said he has also visited Burkina Faso where he had talks with government officials, following Togo's recent accusation that Ghana and some neighboring countries were involved in a plot to destabilize her.

The OAU secretary general said it is vital for African countries to resove all misunderstandings within the context of good-neighborliness. The OAU secretary general said by complementing their resources, African countries can present a solid front to face their economic as well as political problems.

Received by Obed Asamoah

AB261410 Accra Domestic Service in English
1300 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] The OAU secretary general, Mr Ide Oumarou, now on a 2-day official visit to Ghana, this morning called on the secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, in Accra. During discussions, Mr Oumarou explained that his visit is part of a tour of OAU member-countries to discuss problems facing the continent. He said because of certain occurrences in Africa, it has not been possible for him to visit Ghana since he took office last year. The secretary general, who is leading a 5-man delegation, said the team will hold talks on relevant issues affecting member-countries and the world at large.

On his part, Dr Obed Asamoah said the government and people of Ghana consider his visit as a unique opportunity to exchange views on problems affecting the OAU and Africa. He expressed the hope that their discussions would be of benefit to Ghana as well as the OAU.

Rawlings Meets With Oumarou

AB261929 Accra Domestic Service in English
2000 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] The chairman of the PNDC [Provisional Natinal Defense Council], Flight-Lieutenant Rawlings, has stressed the need for open communication between African leaders. He said the OAU should also devise a means of direct contact with not only the government, but also the peoples of Africa. Chairman Rawlings made these calls when a 5-man OAU delegation led by the organization's secretary general, Ide Oumarou, called on him at the Castle today. The delegation's visit forms part of efforts by the OAU to mediate in the misunderstanding between Ghana and Burkina Faso on one hand, and Togo on the other, following Togolese allegations that the two countries were involved in an attempt to overthrow President Eyadema last September. Ghana and Burkina Faso have firmly rejected the allegations as incorrect and inconceivable. Chairman Rawlings said in the event of any misunderstanding between African countries, Africa needs bold and courageous leaders to address such issues frankly and without hiding the facts. He said one of the root causes of such situations is an imbalanced domestic policy pursued by these countries, which bring unfounded allegations against their neighbors. He said Ghana is prepared to open her borders for any African leader to visit the country to ascertain the truth for himself. Ghana is even ready to open her prison houses for any independent observer to come and verify allegations of arbitrary arrests and detention of both Ghanaians and foreign nationals being leveled against Ghana by Togo, and he challenged Togo to do the same in the face of similar allegations in international circles against her. Flight Lieutenant Rawlings said African leaders are to be blamed for the current situation on the continent, especially the situation in southern Africa and Africa's shattered economy. Chairman Rawlings was of the view that the help Africa needs under the circumstances must come from Africa itself.

Replying, Mr Oumarou expressed the desire of the OAU to help reestablish harmony between Ghana, Burkina Faso, and Togo. He said his delegation is in the country only on a fact-finding mission and not to undertake any legal inquiry. Mr Oumarou said such missions should be considered as the OAU's duty towards its members. He said it is important for the OAU to be informed about developments between its members and be able to formulate guidelines regarding the resolution of future tensions. Mr Oumarou pledged the OAU's determination to address the challenge facing the African Continent. He regretted that OAU member-countries come together to sign strong-worded resolutions only to forget about them soon after signing and he called on African countries to close their ranks for a meaningful development of the continent. Mr Oumarou and his entourage has since flown back to Ouagadougou.

BBC, VOA Scored for Announcing Kim Il-song Death

AB251233 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 21 Nov 86

[Commentary by A.B.A. Fusseini, "a national serviceman"]

[Text] Early on Monday, 17 November 1986, the broadcasting stations of some Western countries — namely the BBC, the Voice of America, etc — announced the death of Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of the Korean people and a staunch ally of oppressed and exploited people the world over.

The BBC and the Voice of America attributed their reports to the South Korean defense minister, who they said obtained his information from inside the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The exposure of this blatant lie came only shortly after this announcement had been made when President Kim Il-song, very much alive and kicking, and in the best of health and spirit, personally received a delegation from the People's Republic of Mongolia in Pyongyang.

The motive behind this report as well as its timing is of considerable significance given the intense campaign of disinformation unleashed by some imperialist powers on progressive countries and their leaders, the aggravation of tension in the Korean peninsula, and the global quest by imperialism to control and dominate the world.

Even though it is an open secret that the imperialist powers do not wish to see anything good about the progressive Democratic People's Republic of Korea under the able and dynamic leadership of Comrade Kim Il-song, one would have at least expected their media, which they claim to be objective and fair, to clearly verify the truth or otherwise of this report before going ahead to announce it to the whole world. Again, one would also have expected the VOA and BBC, which gave this report the headlines, to do likewise by telling the world that their early report amounted to nothing more than an orchestrated lie and the wishful thinking of some misguided and reactionary elements.

The fact that these very media are now maintaining a deadly silence over this issue points to the fact that the report was (?brooded) by a sinister ulterior motive. It is now clear that the forces which concocted and peddled these vicious lies not only wanted the propaganda value and the advantage associated with the use of media in international politics, but also, and more importantly, sought the political advantage, that of proving the strength and invincibility of their system, and therefore their logical and divine right to dominate the world.

This, among other things, was expected to sow the seeds of confusion and hysteria among the people of the DPRK, within their party and the political system, and overthrow and integrate the north into their orbit of domination. This is also intended to create an aura of insecurity in the hearts and minds of other progressive leaders and their people and then thus intimidate them into submitting to imperialist domination. This should be especially noted given the recent numerous attempts on the lives of progressive and anti-imperialist leaders around the world and the crusade of disinformation unleashed on them.

This calls for more vigilance and rededication to the anti-imperialist cause by progressive leaders and their people and the closing of ranks by all popular forces to meet this dastardly conspiracy and crime.

The call by the Libyan leader, Brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, for a common, coordinated front to serve as a bulwark against imperialist destabilization of the progressive and peace-loving world in general, and the nonaligned nations in particular, is more relevant and necessary now than at any other time. These disinformation campaigns, threats, and assassinations of progressive leaders should be confronted positively and routed without ever giving them any chance to resurface, let alone succeed.

LIBERIA

Firestone Fires 5,000 as 'Cost-Saving Measure'

AB261427 Paris AFP in English 1351 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Monrovia, Nov 25 (AFP) — The U.S.-run Firestone rubber plantation in Liberia — the largest such unit in the world — has sacked more than 5,000 of its employees, citing cost-saving measures and the decline in the price of rubber on the world market, it was reported here on Tuesday [25 November].

The independent *Daily Observer* newspaper quoted Firestone spokesman S. Barbell as saying the move was necessary in order for the country to "remain viable."

He said the company was going through financial crises, adding "as the price of oil declines, so does the price of rubber, leaving us with no alternative but to reconstruct the entire process."

The sacked employees, mostly Liberians, have dismissed the company's reasons to make them redundant, describing the move as "discriminatory and racist, with insensitivity to the needs of Liberian workers."

They said management had mainly sacked local staff, while "expatriates were left untouched." The company has denied the charge.

Firestone has been cultivating rubber on one million acres 400,000 hectares of land in Liberia since 1926.

In a related development, Liberia's largest iron ore mining company LAMCO has sacked 98 per cent of the employees of its two hospitals in the country, following an agreement with the Swedish Health Ministry to take them over.

LAMCO cited financial difficulties as reasons for the decision. Officials said the move affected both Liberian and foreign doctors and nurses.

LAP Responds to Appeal for Reconciliation Talks

AB251825 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1710 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] In its response to many appeals to return to the national reconciliation talks, the Liberian Action Party, LAP, has clarified that in accordance with the Constitution of Liberia, all power is inherent in the people and not in the force of arms and fire power, nor in the threat of violence and war. LAP said violence is not the solution to national crisis.

Speaking at a press conference this morning at the Monrovia City Hall, the chairman of LAP, Counsellor Emmanuel Kromah, said the party believes that the nobility of any society is especially incarnated and made manifest to the world in the personal example of its public leaders and public servants. Reiterating LAP's initial proposal at the reconciliation talks with the goodwill ambassadors, Chairman Kromah said the party suggested these preliminary actions in order to [words indistinct] conducive political atmosphere for meaningful dialogue and full consultations. He said they were also intended to provide full participation in these talks by the Liberia Unification Party, the Unity Party, the National Democratic Party of Liberia, and the Liberia Council of Churches, as well as the LAP itself.

MALI

Foreign Minister Leaves for Iran 24 Nov

AB250859 Bamako Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 25 Nov 86

[Text] Modibo Keita, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, left Bamako last night for Tehran, Iran. He was accompanied by Bakari Drame, Malian ambassador to Iran resident in Tripoli, and several other top-ranking officials of his department. They are on an official visit to that country from 24 to 29 November 1986.

The delegation will return to Bamako on 29 November.

ANGOLA

Rebels Claim Key Railway Town Recaptured

HK280444 Hong Kong AFP in English 0441 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Lisbon, Nov 28 (AFP) — South African and U.S.-backed Angolan anti-government rebels said Thursday they had retaken the town of Kamgumbe, in eastern Angola, enabling them to control movement along the Benguela railway, which normally links neighbouring Zaire to the sea.

The rebel communique, received here, noted that the "frontline" states were trying to reopen the railway. Kamgumbe was occupied by government forces in June.

Luanda Curfew Lifted for 28, 29 Nov

MB280559 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] According to a communique issued by the Ministry of Defense, curfew in the city of Luanda has been lifted for today and tomorrow so that the residents may joyfully join in the traditional day of the Island celebrations.

Malawi's Explanation of Minister's Plane Discounted

MB271111 Dakar PANA in English 1103 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Lusaka, 27 Nov (ZANA/PANA) — Angola has dismissed as insufficient the reason advanced by Malawi for turning back a VIP plane carrying Angolan Defence Minister Pedro Tonha and some top officials to a SADCC meeting in Tanzania.

A statement released by the Angolan Embassy in Lusaka, Malawi has been asked to indicate if official permission was required by fellow SADCC countries before they could fly over her territory. [sentence as received]

The Angolan VIP plane was ordered back when it entered Malawian air space after leaving Zambia last week, and the only explanation received so far from Malawi's envoy in Luanda is that Malawi President Kamuzu Banda was touring the country at the time.

Angola has, however, dismissed the explanation and asked Malawi to indicate in time whether official permission is required before entering Malawian airspace because the officials risked their lives by turning back half way from the destination with insufficient fuel.

[Words indistinct] took such an action because as members of SADCC both countries were committed to contributing to development of the sovereign states in the region.

It said the VIP plane took the (?same) route which has been used for years and the order took the crew by surprise because Angola has no intention of violating any independent sovereign member states airspace. Angola has said that the plane returned safely by luck and with the support of the Zambian air force and the aircraft crew. The SADCC defence meeting to which Tonha was travelling in Dar es Salaam groups Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Malawi.

Cooperation Memorandum Signed With Bulgaria

MB261446 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
1200 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] A memorandum on strengthening cooperation between Angola and Bulgaria in the field of social welfare was signed in Luanda today. The document was signed by Rodeth dos Santos, member of of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee and secretary of state for social affairs, and Grigor Dimitrov, deputy chairman of the Bulgarian Committee for Labor and Social Work, who headed the Bulgarian delegation to our coutnry.

The Bulgarian delegation visted Angola from 19 to 26 November and toured several child care institutions and social welfare centers where it learned about the assistance being provided to children, working mothers, war orphans, elderly people and the disabled, and the shortcomings faced by the People's Republic of Angola. The delegation expressed its solidarity with the Angolan people, the victims of continued aggression by imperialism and its lackeys, and support for the application of general and mandatory economic sanctions against racist South Africa, in order to accelerate the eradication of apartheid.

A final communique issued at the end of the friendly working visit by the Bulgarian delegation says that the two sides agreed to continue the existing cooperation to strengthen the links of friendship through the exchange of delegations and accords in the field of labor and social welfare. The Bulgarian delegation leaves Luanda later today.

Labor Delegation Departs for Talks in GDR

MB271458 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
1200 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] The People's Republic of Angola and the GDR are going to renew an existing agreement on temporary jobs and profession qualification of Angolan citizens working in that country. The Angolan minister of labor and social security, Comrade Diogo Jorge de Jesus, leaves Luanda tonight for Berlin heading an important delegation of his ministry where he will stay for about 10 days. In Berlin, the Angolan delegation will also review with the German officials the results of the agreement that has now expired.

BOTSWANA

Government Declines RSA Invitation on Terrorist

MB271204 Gaborone Domestic Service in English
1110 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] The Botswana Government has turned down an invitation from South Africa to send senior government officials to Pretoria to interview an alleged African National Congress captive who claims to have been operating from Botswana.

In an interview with the *Botswana Press Agency* in Gaborone yesterday, the minister of external affairs, Dr Gaositwe Chiepe, dismissed South African press reports that Botswana had failed to respond to Pretoria's invitation. The report was carried in a South African newspaper, *The Citizen*, which normally reflects the thinking of tHE Pretoria government.

Dr Chiepe, who said the visit by Botswana Government representatives to Pretoria would not serve any purpose, said the invitation was received on Monday and the response was telexed to Pretoria the same day. She said in the response that Botswana had made it clear to Pretoria that there was no purpose in the officials going to South Africa and coming back to investigate allegations made by South Africa's media about the allleged ANC captive, known only by the name of Junior.

The minister said Botswana had requested South Africa to supply Botswana with details of Junior's account for investigation.

In his invitation, South Africa's foreign minister, Mr Pik Botha, said Botswana should send its security officials to interview Junior in the presence of the South African police.

Dr Chiepe reiterated Botswana's long [words indistinct] of not allowing anybody to use the country as a launching pad for attacks against its neighbors.

MOZAMBIQUE

Malawi Official Arrives on 'Good-Will Mission'

MB261126 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] John Tembo, a prominent official in the Malawian Government, arrived in Maputo this morning on what he described as a good-will mission. John Tembo was welcomed by Armando Guebuza, member of the Frelimo Party Political Bureau, at Maputo Airport. Also this morning, John Tembo was received in audience by Joaquim Alberto Chissano, the president of the republic.

President Demands Malawi Action

MB262021 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] President Joaquim Chissano has called on Malawi to go beyond simple declarations that it doesn't support the South African-backed MNR bandits. Speaking today in Maputo when he received a special delegation from Malawi, President Chissano said that Malawi should help to create conditions of security in the region. He said he had agreed to receive the Malawian delegation without [words indistinct] because Malawi and Mozambique are living through a series of serious problems.

The Mozambican leader went on to say that Mozambique had worked hard to overcome these difficulties. Eventually, the two governments had opened embassies in each of the two countries. President Chissano said that by opening embassies in Maputo and Lilongwe, the two countries hoped a strong relationship would have developed. The president said the problems were not totally solved and efforts were culminated with the visit by the late President Samora Machel to Malawi in 1984.

From that visit, President Chissano said, Mozambique expected better results. He pointed out that what has happened since an agreement was signed between the two countries has not facilitated the establishment of the desired type of relations. President Chissano said the Mozambican Government is aware that the enemies of peace, stability, and development in Mozambique have done everything they could to hinder these relations. He said he didn't want to discuss matters which fell more correctly within the competence of the Mozambique-Malawi joint security commission.

When Malawi says it will never support the bandits, we take it into consideration, President Chissano said, but we will ask Malawi to go beyond this declaration and create conditions of security. He warned that the two countries should not disguise the problems that exist but face them with courage.

The Malawian delegation at today's meeting was led by John Tembo, a member of the Executive Committee of the Malawi Congress Party. Mr Tembo delivered a special message to President Chissano from the life president of Malawi, Kamuzu Banda. Once again, Mr Tembo denied his country's links with MNR bandits. The Malawian delegation returned home this afternoon.

Chissano Proposes Federation With Zimbabwe

MB280732 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0700 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Mozambique's new leader has put forward the idea of a federation between his country and Zimbabwe. Joaquim Chissano's remarks concerning a possible federation came in an interview in Zimbabwe's main daily newspaper, *The Herald*. Howard Barrell has the story.

[Barrell] Chissano steered clear in the interview of actually calling for a federation between Mozambique and Zimbabwe. Rather, he floated the idea as a possible distant, though desirable, consequences of increased economic, political, and military cooperation. Real federation would be possible only when there were no differences between the two countries, he added. Observers believe both countries could eventually benefit from such a federation. What is now Zimbabwe could have regular access to Mozambican ports, and Mozambique could share in Zimbabwe's far greater wealth. A federal unit could also counterbalance to some extent South Africa's vast power in the region. The historic links between the two countries' ruling parties are warm and go back some 15 years. An estimated 6,000 Zimbabwean troops are currently in Mozambique, helping Frelimo fight the MNR.

MNR 'Terrorists' Intercepted Near Maputo

MB261921 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
1800 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Special units of the Mozambican police force successfully intercepted a group of South Africa's MNR terrorists in a residential area near Maputo city last night. In the ensuing clash at least four terrorists were killed.

The bandits have managed to infiltrate the Liberdade residential area of Matola, west of Maputo, at about 1030 last night. They were detected while attempting to kidnap residents and to rob a consumer cooperative.

When the terrorists were pushed back, they opened fire indiscriminately against houses injuring a pregnant woman in her back. Two terrorists, including the head of the group, were killed on the spot while trying to breaking into the consumer cooperative. The other two were killed later.

A number of weapons including semi-automatic rifles and explosives were captured by the Mozambican rapid intervention police force, which is stationed in the Matola area.

Mozambique's minister of interior, Manuel Antonio, visited the scene of the fighting this morning. He spoke at length with the residents and appealed that they should maintain high vigilance. The minister said the residents should also inform defense and security forces about any strange movements in the area.

Cooperation Agreement With France Signed

MB280754 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0400 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] In Maputo yesterday, Mozambique and France agreed to strengthen bilateral cooperation in the technical and scientific fields. Within the terms of agreements signed after talks between the two countries, which began last Tuesday, France is expected to finace the second phase of rehabilitating the TEXLOM [Mozambique Textile] factory and a study aimed at encouraging cotton planting in Nampula Province. Financing will also be directed at the collective and industrial fishing sectors.

The agreements were signed on the Mozambican side by Francisco Caravela, secretary of state for light industry, and (Jacques Lareau), director for scientific cooperation in the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

SOUTH AFRICA

Commentary Supports 'Good Friend' Reagan in Crisis

MB270528 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] Few world leaders are as vehemently anti-American as the Ayatollah Khomenei. The Ayatollah, now 86 years of age, took over Iran in 1979, replacing the shah's pro-Western government with one which is consistently hostile to the United States.

Eighteen months ago, Washington received information that certain Iranian leaders who were among those in line to succeed the Ayatollah were willing to moderate their governemnt's fierce anti-Americanism. President Reagan thereupon decided to open a dialogue with the Iranians and authorized arms exports to Iran in order to promote the dialogue process. This secret operation has now been exposed and two major matters of policy and principle have been raised as a result.

The first concerns United States legislation that prohibits substantial arms exports without Congress being notified. President Reagan maintains that he authorized the transfer of only small amounts of defensive weapons and spare parts for defensive systems. Critics say that, if arms supplies to Iran via a third country, Israel, are taken into account, the exports were substantial and therefore in violation of American legislation.

The second issue is whether the arms transfers were intended to be part of a deal under which Americans held hostage in the Lebanon by pro-Iranian groups would be released. Mr Reagan insists that this was not the case and that the dialogue exercise and initiatives for the release of the hostages were undertaken in two separate sets of negotiation. Critics believe there was a direct connection.

During the arms deal, up to $30 million received from Iran in payment for arms supplies was improperly transferred to American-backed freedom fighters in Nicaragua.

These revelations — and the fact that key officials will be leaving the Reagan administration — will inevitably weaken the credibility of that administration, already smarting under the Congressional rebuff on the sanctions issue, the Democratic Party's victory in the Senate elections, and the disclosure of a disinformation campaign against Libya. Further pressures on the Reagan administration can be expected in January when the Democratic Party takes over formal control of the Senate and investigates the Iranian arms deal.

On the international level, Mr Reagan has campaigned vigorously for interstate cooperation against terrorism and, specifically, for an arms embargo against Iran because of her promotion of terrorism. To the extent that he is perceived to have authorised the arms exports in an attempt to have terrorists free their American hostages, his credibility will also suffer in, particularly, Western Europe and moderate Arab states, such as Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

President Reagan, as distinct from the majority of his legislators, has been a good friend of South Africans, who will sympathize with him and wish him well in his present crisis and in the last two years of his presidency.

Commentary Traces Pattern in Area Destabilization

MB280525 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] In the past 6 years, the number of combat aircraft in the Angolan Air Force has trebled, to 92. The number of helicopters stands at 113, five times the number in 1980. Angola's ground forces have risen over the past 6 years from 86,000 to 142,000.

The pattern is repeated in Mozambique, where ground forces have increased alarmingly, as have the number of armored vehicles, combat aircraft, and helicopter gunships.

This buildup of military power has one common denominator: Arms supplies to both Angola and Mozambique are from communist sources. Zimbabwe has also stepped up her intake of communist armaments recently.

The infusion of communist military hardware has created considerable destabilization in southern Africa. In the case of Angola and Mozambique, it is perpetuating the destabilisation caused by the civil wars in those countries.

Destabilization is also being exported. Destabilization in Mozambique, for example, has affected four neighboring states: Zimbabwe and Tanzania, which have commited troops to the civil war in Mozambique; Malawi, which has been accused by Mozambique of supporting Renamo and been threatened with retaliatory action; and South Africa, which has had to cope with thousands of illegal immigrants fleeing from the strife in Mozambique.

Destabilization feeds on itself. It has spread to Botswana, where, for some years, sanctuary has been given to ANC terrorists and infiltration routes have been provided for terror attacks against the peoples of South Africa. The president of that country, Dr Quett Masire, has sought to camouflage his government's involvement in destabilization and support for terrorism by repeating the hoary accusation taht South Africa is planning aggression against her neighbours. Yet, when the chips are down, and South Africa offers President Masire concrete evidence of Botswana's support for ANC terrorism through the testimony of an ANC agent, Botswana refuses to listen to the truth — or to act upon it.

The dangerous game of destabilization contrasts sharply with the commitment of other southern African countries to the promotion of stable conditisons in the subcontinent through regional co-operation. Swaziland and the new government of Lesotho have, in particular, voted for friendship with South Africa through formal treaties and other forms of cooperation. This has been exemplified by the agreement concluded this week for the sale of 30,000 tons of South African maize to Lesotho.

It is this form of cooperation — not participation in destabilization — that signposts the road to stability and progress in southern Africa.

Pik Botha Says Red Cross To Continue Presence in RSA

MB261733 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1727 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Pretoria Nov 26 SAPA -- The government has decided to allow the International Red Cross to continue its presence in South Africa, "in the light of the clear stand taken in this matter by the president of the ICRC," the foreign minister, Mr Pik Botha, announced tonight. In a statement in Pretoria, he said the ICRC would also continue operating in SWA/Namibia.

Mr Botha said: (Text) It will be recalled that the South African Government, following the illegal suspension of its right to participate in the 25th international conference of the Red Cross recently, decided to suspend the representation of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in South Africa and to request the delegation of the ICRC in South Africa to leave the country by November 30.

In a letter dated November 18 to the South African state president, the president of the ICRC made representations to the South African Government to be allowed to continue the activities of the ICRC in southern Africa from their offices in South Africa.

In his communication to the state president, the president of the ICRC emphasised that the ICRC disassociates itself from the decision taken to suspend South Africa's right to participate in the recent International Red Cross conference.

He also categorically confirmed that the ICRC will continue to uphold South Africa's rights in terms of the statutes of the International Red Cross and will actively support South Africa's continued participation in the activities and conferences of the International Red Cross.

He states that every state party to the Geneva Conventions is by right a member of the Conference of the Red Cross. Therefore the suspension of a member state runs counter to the statutes as they stand.

He declared that the ICRC will uphold the universality of international humanitarian law and respect for the rules and procedures of conferences of the International Red Cross.

The ICRC further informed the South African Government that it will continue to support the South African Red Cross Society without reserve.

In the light of the clear stand taken in this matter by the president of the ICRC, the government has decided to allow the ICRC to continue its presence in South Africa.

As far as the presence of the ICRC in SWA/Namibia is concerned, the South African Government has consulted the transitional government of national unity [TGNU] of the territory. The TGNU has now informed the government that it is prepared to allow the ICRC to continue with its activities in SWA/Namibia.

Since it is the policy of the South African Government to be guided by the wishes of the leaders of the territory in regard to decision affecting SWA/Namibia, the government accepts the decision of the TGNU in this regard. (ends text)

Pik Botha Regrets Botswana Refusal Over ANC Claims

MB271937 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1800 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] The Department of Foreign Affairs has reacted to Botswana's decision not to accept its invitation to interrogate an ANC terrorist captured by the South African security forces. The minister of foreign affairs Mr Pik Botha, said he is sorry that the Botswana Government is not ready to make use ofthe opportunity to find out how the ANC uses Botswana of planning violence against South Africa. The South African Government has agreed to make details of (?statments by) the detainee available to the Botswana Government.

Meanwhile, the government has emphasized its duty to protect the people of South Africa from violence, as is planned and executed from outside its borders.

President Rejects Attempts To Sabotage Reform

MB261807 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1715 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Bronkhorstrpruit Nov 26 SAPA — Nobody had the moral right to sabotage the positive attempts by government on so many fronts to solve South Africa's problems, the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, said today.

Speaking at a luncheon after the Bronkhorstspruit Town Council conferred honorary freedom of the town on him at a special meeting, he said, "many people are inclined to speak of our problems and too many people attempt to exploit our problems to further their own interests.

"I am not against pepole who make an attempt to understand our problems, but nobody has the moral right to sabotage our positive attempts to solve our problems, as the government is doing on as many fronts."

Bronkhorstspruit is the 27th town or city in South Africa to confer honorary freedom upon Mr Botha.

U.S., Canadian Envoys Present Credentials to Botha

MB271405 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0758 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Pretoria Nov 27 SAPA — The first black United States ambassador to South Africa, Mr Edward Perkins, presented his credentials to the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, this morning during a 15 minute interview at the Union Buildings.

Mr Ronald MacLean, the new Canadian ambassador, presented his credintial to the state president shortly before Mr Perkins.

Both ambassadors, who were formally dressed in morning suits and top hats, were given the general salute as they stood on the steps of Mr Botha's office after their meetings by a state president's guard of honour and the band of the black Defence Force's 21 Battalion.

Mr Perkins arrived in South Africa last week to start his term of office and Mr MacLean a few weeks ago.

Crash Investigator Says No Results Till Next Year

MB070748 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0700 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] The results of the Machel death crash inquiry are not expected to be announced before the end of the year. Experts investigating the air cash that killed the Mozambican president are currently in Moscow to continue their examination of the plane's flight recorders.

The South African director of civil aviation, Rennie van Zyl, has told reporters at Moscow airport the digital flight recorder, one of the plane's four recording devices, will be examined today. He says the work on the cockpit voice recorder, which was examined in Switzerland, was very successful, and what he called some good data has been retrieved from it.

Mr van Zyl says the team of South African, Mozambican, and Soviet investigators does not expect to announce the results of its investigation until early next year.

Businessmen's Detention in Zimbabwe Investigated

MB270922 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0822 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Pretoria, Nov 27, SAPA — South Africa's trade representative in Harare is "looking into" reports in Johannesburg newspapers today that a number of businessmen from the republic — including foreign nationals and South Africans — have been held in Zimbabwe for questioning as suspected spies for the SA defence force.

Approached for comment on the reports today, a foreign affairs spokesman said in Pretoria his department had "taken note of newspaper reports." "The South African trade representative in Harare is currently looking into the matter." He had no further comment "for the time being."

According to the press reports, which quote sources in Harare, a group of between seven and 11 businessmen from South Africa, most of whom were staying at the Holiday Inn in Harare, were taken in for questioning on Monday.

It was understood some of them had been released but confined to their hotel rooms, and that their passports were being held. Others were still being questioned yesterday.

Mr Bill Grobler, a Brakpan businessman who holds a Zimbabwean passport, a Mr Boet van der Westhuizen, and Mr Robin

Taylor, whose addresses are not known, are among those reported to have been held for questioning.

Businessmen Suspected of Spying

MB271557 Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 27 Nov 86 pp 1, 2

[By Tony Stirling]

[Text] A number of businessmen from South Africa — including foreign nationals and South Africans — have been held in Zimbabwe for questioning as suspected spies for the SA Defence Force.

This was confirmed to *The Citizen* last night by sources in Harare.

According to *The Citizen's* information, a group of between seven and 11 businessmen from South Africa, most of whom were staying at the Holiday Inn, Harare, were taken for questioning on Monday.

The move follows as Press conference last week by the Chief of the Army, Lieutenant General A.J. "Kat" Liebernberg about the use of ANC routes through Botswana and Zimbabwe in which South African retaliation was again hinted at.

It is understood that some of the men have been released, but are confined to their rooms at the Holiday Inn and have had their passports removed. Others were still being questioned yesterday.

Mr Bill Grobler, a Brakpan businessmam who hold a Zimbabwean passports, a Mr Boet van der Westheizen and a Mr Robin Taylor, whose addresses are not known, are among those reported to have been held for questioning.

Mrs Grobler said last night that she had heard that her husband had been held on Monday, but that she was still trying to ascertain the exact position as she had been unable to make contact with him since then.

A Harare source who did not wish to be named, said he had been informed that 11 businessmen from South Africa had been held for questioning over suspected SADF spying activities. Another source put the figure of those who were held at seven.

South African officials in Harare were last night trying to establish the facts.

Court Finds 3 Delmas Treason Defendants Not Guilty

MB270930 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0928 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Delmas Nov 27, SAPA — Three of 22 men standing trial on charges of treason in the circuit court here were found not guilty and discharged by Mr Justice V. van Dijkhorst today.

The hearing against the 22, including prominent United Democratic Front leaders, an Anglican priest and a South African Council of Churches worker, has been running for more than a year.

The judge adjourned the case to next January 9.

All the accused had pleaded not guilty to charges of conspiring to make black townships ungovernable and to overthrow the government through violence.

Further on Ruling

MB271035 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1030 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Delmas, Nov 27, SAPA — Three of the Delmas treason trialists today hailed the end of a long trial and nearly two years of incarceration when Mr Justice K. van Dijhorst acquitted and discharged them.

But for many others it was a day of tears and disappointment — dozens of people flocked to Delmas today hoping that it would be their loved ones who would walk out free men when the judge gave his judgment in the defence application for the discharge of all 22 accused.

Mr Mohapi Lazarus More, Mr Simon Maxala Vilakazi, and Mr Mkhambi Malindi were acquitted. Mr Justice van Dijkhorst said the three had no case to meet in his view.

The accused who remain to face charges of high treason include United Democratic Front leaders Mr Popo Molefe, Mr Patrick "Terror" Lekota and Mr Moss Chikane, as well as an Anglican priest and members of AZAPO and the Vaal Civic Association (VCA).

Mr Justice van Dijkhorst said a reasonable man might find that on the facts placed before the court, the UDF had been involved in a consipiracy aimed at overthrowing the government, as alleged by the state.

That would also involve all affiliates represented on UDF management structures. The judge held, therefore, that the accused who were involved in the UDF or any of its affiliates such as the VCA, did have a case to answer on the charge of treason.

Concerning a murder charge, which relates to the death of community councillors in the Vaal Triangle, the judge said that any accused who had propagated violence or was in a leadership position at a meeting where violence was propagated and did nothing to repudiate it, could be expected to give the court an explanation. On this criterion some of the accused could be implicated in that they should have foreseen that inciting people to actions against councillors could perhaps have led to their deaths.

As the three acquitted men left the court building, Mr Malindi said he would continue to fight for a free South Africa. He said he did not know exactly what they would do now, but it would take some time for them to assess what was going on inside the townships. He said there was still a lot of hard work to be done to help those treason trialists who had been left behind, adding:

"We thought that all of us would be discharged." He said he believed that the people needed a lot of guidance and direction which ought to be given to them by their leaders (the UDF leaders still on trial).

Mr More was married in court to his wife, Maguata, during the treason trial. She was in court today and clung to his hand tearfully after he had been discharged. She whispered something and he laughed and she said later she had told him they could go on their honeymoon now.

The hearing against the remaining 19 men was postponed to January.

6 Defendants Granted Bail

MB271416 Johannesburg SAPA English 1409 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Johannesburg Nov 27 SAPA — Three Delmas treason trailists were acquitted and six others were granted bail of R15,000 each in the Rand Circuit Court today. Family, friends and supporters gathered in te conservative enclase of Delmas in the vain hope that an application for the discharge of all 22 men would be succesful.

Mr Simon Vilakazi, 30, Mr Mohapi More, 26, and Mr Mkhambi Malindi, 21, were acquitted and Mr Patrick Bakleka, Mr Morake Mokoena, Mr Tsietsi Mphuti, Mr Tebello Rmakgula, Mr Serame Hlonyane and Mr Thabiso Tatsomo were granted bail.

Three key members of the United Democratic Front — Mr Popo Molefe, Mr Patrick "Terror" Lekota and Mr Moss Chikane — and 16 others, mostly members of the Azanian People's Organisation and the Vaal Civic Association, are facing a main charge of treason, three alternative counts of terrorism, two counts of subversion and five counts of murder. The trial follows violence that broke out in the Vaal Triangle on Sept 3, 1984.

The defence counsel argued that the court was obliged to discharge all 22.

Mr Justice Dijkhorst found that Mr Vilakazi, Mr More and Mr Malindi, had no case to meet. They were accused, amongst other allegations, of singing freedom songs, listening to Radio Freedom and being cheerleaders at the lauch of the Vaal Civic Association. The judge said the court had discretion under the Criminal Procedures Act to discharge the men but apart from the three acquitted, "I refuse to exercise my discretion in their favour."

The state case involved proof that the UDF and its affiliates were involved in a conspiracy to overthrow the government, he said. "There is evidence that the UDF and AZAPO were working towards a common goal which might be part of a conspiracy." This involved the management structures of all affiliates and the accused involved had a case to answer, the judge said. Explanations were also required of people not part of management structures, but who propagated violence and those who participated in a protest march in a leadership capacity.

The murder charge "stands on it own foot" and, "in my view the accused who attended a meeting that propagated the murder of councillors and black local authorities and who did not object... an explanation is required. They should have seen that threats against councillors may lead to action against them by a mob which could lead to their death," the judge said. "I refuse to exercise my discretion in their favour as it is likely that they may be implicated in some of the councillors' murders."

Under a heavy police presence the three freed men left with their families.

Among those attending today's proceedings were activist Mrs Helen Joseph, who is also a UDF patron, and Mr Archie Gumede, a UDF president. The trial re-opens on Jan 21.

Activist Helen Joseph Refused Visa for U.S. Visit

MB261410 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Antiapartheid activist Helen Joseph has been refused a visa to travel to the United States. The Department of Home Affairs in Pretoria has confirmed that Mrs Joseph's application for a visa has been turned down. However, no reasons have been given for the refusal. The 81-year-old human rights activist was due to travel to Houston, Texas, to received the (Roscoe Chapel) award granted every 5 years to people who have committed themselves to truth and freedom. The award was also to have been granted to Albertina Sisulu of the UDF. Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town Desmond Tutu is scheduled to be the keynote speaker at the ceremony on 10 December.

GENCOR Bars Returning Strikers From Mines

MB261623 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1501 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Excerpts] Johannesburg Nov 26 SAPA — About 2000 workers returning to work today after a two-day strike at GENCOR's [General Mining Union Corporation] Matla colliery were barred from the premises for the company to conduct disciplinary hearings for the strikers, the chief executive officer for GENCOR's coal division, Mr Gordon Thompson, said. [passage omitted]

"The hearings follow after the employees failed to follow the agreed-upon procedures between Matla's management and the workers representatives to solve grievances," Mr Thompson said.

"The employees returned to the mine this morning and were informed about the disiplinary hearing and returned to the hostels. At this stage they have not reported for the hearings.

"The mine yesterday sent a telex to NUM [National Union of Mineworkers] stating that the workers actions are not in accordance with agreed procedures and undertakings between the mine and the union," he said. The NUM telexed the company this morning asking why the workers had been locked out and requested a meeting with mine management to which the mine agreed. "We will discuss the dispute and find out why the workers didn't come to work," Mr Tompson said. [passage omitted]

Miners Face Hearings

MB271521 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1507 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Johannesburg Nov 27 SAPA — About 300 of 2000 employees locked out of GENCOR's [General Union Mining Corporation] Matla colliery reported to management for "individual discimplinary hearings" today, GENCOR said. The move follows a lockout last Tuesday when the 2000 workers went on what GENCOR says was an illegal strike.

A statement by Mr Graham Thompson, chief executive officer of GENCOR's coal division, said the 2000 initially indicated they wanted a mass hearing. No worker who had been "absent without permission" on Tuesday had been allowed to return to work yet, Mr Thompson's statement said. "The hearings are still in progress. A meeting is currently taking place between mine management and officials of the head and regional offices of the National Union of Mineworkers [NUM]," the statement said, adding that the situation at the mine was calm.

The strike at Matla was one of a series which hit two other GENCOR mines on Tuesday. Workers were protesting against the "unsatisfactory" relationship between the NUM and management of GENCOR's Kinross gold mine, a NUM spokesman has said. Workers at the other two mines — Bracken and Winkelhaak — returned to work yesterday, but those at Matla were prevented from doing so.

Incidents which accompanied the deterioration in relations between the NUM and Kinross management include the dismissal of NUM regional chairman Mr Eric Vala, several underground work stoppages, and the death of a man in a clash between NUM members and another group last Sunday.

KwaNdebele Prince Released From Detention

MB261758 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1708 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Pretoria Nov 26 SAPA — Prince James Mahlangu, a member of KwaNdebele's legislative assembly, who had been detained under the emergency regulations, has been released. Sources in Siyabuswa said today Prince James was freed last night — just in time to participate in the legislative assembly's election for a new chief minister tomorrow.

KwaNdeble's commissioner of police, Brig Hertzog Lerm, could not be reached for comment today, and it is unclear whether some nine others detained with Prince James, including his brother, Prince Andries, had also been freed.

A third member of the royal family, Prince Cornelius Mahlangu, who is the minister of health; and the acting chief minister, Mr Klaas Motshweni, the minister of works and water affairs, have been identified by observers as likely nominees for the post of chief minister.

Meanwhile, pre-election lobbying within the 72-member assembly coincided with courtesy visit to the territory today by South Africa's outgoing minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange. He had lunch with cabinet ministers.

Assembly Elects New Leader

MB271116 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1106 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Siyabuswa Nov 27 SAPA — An ordinary member of the KwaNdebele legislative assembly, Mr George Mahlangu, was today elected the new chief minister of the homeland. A tribal chief's son, Mr Mahlangu received 41 votes to beat the 25 received by the only other nominee, Prince James Mahlangu.

Prince Mahlangu, also a member of the assembly and chairman of the Ndzundza-Mabhoko tribal authority, was released from detention on Tuesday. He is one of the leaders of the anti-independence movement in the homeland.

Mr Mahlangu succeeds Chief Minister Simon Skosana, who died recently after a long illness.

The acting chief minister of Kwandebele, Mr Klaass Mtsweni, was not nominated for the post.

Mahlangu Evasive on Independence

MB271333 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1326 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Siyabushwa Nov 27 SAPA — KwaNdebele businessman Mr George Mahlangu was elected the new chief minister by the territory's Legislative Assembly in Siyabushwa today. He received 41 votes against Prince James Mahlangu's 25.

The 35-year-old new chief minister, who held no ministerial portfolio before being elected, told a press conference immediately after the election that he had been brought up by KwaNdebele's cabinet ministers. Mr Mahlangu was evasive on whether he supported or rejected independence for the territory. He indicated however that "a meeting" would be held with the public to test their attitude towards independence.

Political observers expressed fears however that the youthful Mr Mahlangu may be dominated by his elders in the cabinet, and that new initiatives to gain independence may be railroaded through the assembly in due course. They also pointed to the convincing defeat Prince James Mahlangu, who publicly opposed independence, had suffered — an apparent about face from the assembly's rejection of independence in August.

Asked at the press conference whether he thought that the state of emergency conditions in KwaNdebele should be lifted, he said: "I shall have to look through them before I can decide." Asked how peace should be restored, he said: "People should realise that what has been done the wrong way should be done the right way."

Mr Mahlangu was born at Verena and went to school in the Moloto area. He matriculated in 1974, and obtained a legal diploma from the university of Zululand in 1980. Mr Mahlangu promised development and progress for KwaNdebele. He grew up in the same kraal [homestead] as Prince James, and assured the news conference that they were still the best of friends. The new chief owns a number of shops and a bar within KwaNdebele.

The commoner, with a neatly-trimed beard and moustache, was evidently still not used to news conferences, and blinked from photographers flashguns. He was whisked to and from the news conference by the commissioner of police, Brig Hertzog Lerm.

Prince James, who was the only other nominee, left for his kraal immediately after the election. He, his brother Prince Andries, and some eight others were released from detention in terms of the security regulations on Tuesday night, less than 48 hours before the election. According to a personal spokesman, Prince James had not been given any reasons for his detention.

Grenade Injures Three Policemen at KTC

MB270729 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0728 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Cape Town, Nov 27, SAPA — Three policemen were injured in a grenade blast at the KTC squatter camp in Guguletu today, the police confirmed.

While undertaking a crime prevention operation a grenade was thrown at the men and exploded, a spokesman said. The policemen were rushed to hospital and the Bureau for Information is expected to issue a statement on the incident later today.

Soweto Squatters Shacks Demolished by Police

MB261221 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1100 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] A number of squatters at Soweto's Mofolo Park near Johannesburg are reportedly being uprooted from their shacks by council police. Reports from the township say shacks set up on a golf course are being destroyed by council police. The shacks started going up last year while Ephraim Shablala was still mayor of Soweto. Squatters were apparently paying Mr Shabalala for permission to erect shacks on the course. A foreign television crew has been kicked out of the area and is not clear what is going to happen to the displaced residents.

Police Use Teargas

MB261428 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1422 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Johannesburg Nov 26 SAPA — Police teargassed a mob which had pelted them with stones and petrol-bombs in Soweto today. A Bureau for Information spokesman, Mr Deon van Loggerenberg, said there had been no arrests or injuries.

The trouble started when settled house-dwellers in Mofolo started tearing down the shacks of squatters in the area, he said. Squatters set upon those demolishing the shacks. When police arrived on the scene, they were stoned and petrol-bombed, and had to use teargas to disperse the mob. It is not known how badly the shacks had been damaged.

Relative peace had been restored to the area by this afternoon.

Reports Vary Over Police Presence

MB271352 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1226 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Johannesburg Nov 27 SAPA — Police vehicles and a car belonging to the American news agency CBS were pelted with stones and petrol bombs by angry youths following the demolition of shacks and teargassing of residents in Mofolo yesterday. *The Star* was on the scene when bulldozers ploughed through more than 100 shacks. Squatters objected to CBS filming the demolished shacks and ordered its crew out of the area. A spokesman for CBS said their car was damaged by a petrol bomb but no one was injured.

Reports of what took place during the incident differed widely. Reporters said they found there was no fight between residents and squatters. Neither was this reported by residents or squatters. Instead, residents helped squatters assemble building material from the structures.

They said the police and soldiers did not arrive after the demolition. The shacks were demolished in their presence. The teargas was thrown at squatters who were in groups crying over their demolished shelters and those putting otgether what remained of them.

Afterwards, rain poured down on the roofless squatters while they struggled to get neighbours to accommodate them. Squatters complained they had lost several hundred rands in the demolition. They said the council did not build houses, and then when the mayor, Mr Ephraim Tshabalala, granted them a place to erect shacks, they were demolished.

A spokesman for the Bureau for Information, Mr Johan Van Der Walt, said police arrived at the squatter camp where there was "an internal fight of settlers (house dwellers) against squatters." "In Mofolo North in Soweto a mob was teargassed as petrol bombs and stones were thrown. The trouble started when settled house dwellers in Mofolo started tearing down shacks of the squatters. They said it was an eyesore and the squatters set upon those demolishing shacks. Then the police arrived on the scene and were stoned and petrol-bombed. They had to use teargas to disperse the mob," said Mr Van Der Walt. *The Star* asked Mr Van Der Walt what the residents used to demolish the shacks, to which he replied he did not know. Mr Van Der Walt said he was providing official information.

Soweto Mayor Resigns

MB280444 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2159 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Nov 27, SAPA — The mayor of Soweto, Mr Ephraim Tshabalala, handed in his letter of resignation to the Soweto City Council today in his dual capacity as councillor of Mofolo Village and mayor. The letter was handed to the town clerks, Mr Nico Malan, at the Council's monthly meeting held at the chambers in Jabulani, Soweto.

In his letter, Mr Tshabalala said the primary reason for his resignation was the outcry from Soweto residents saying that they no longer have confidence in the council. He said he felt that he could no longer perform his duties in the present administration of Soweto. He went on to say that his resignation will take effect from November 30 and that was stepping down in the hope that an interim committee could be established in order to normalise the situation in Soweto.

SOWETAN Editor on Violence

MB262003 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 26 Nov 86

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Violence has erupted again in Soweto, outside the South African city of Johannesburg. It blew up in the shantytown of Mshenguville in the center of the sprawling township. The authorities wanted Mshenguville demolished. The residents resisted. Julian Borja asked Thamie Mazwai, news editor of the *Sowetan* newspaper, what had happened:

[Begin recording] [Mazwai] About 100 shacks were bulldozed this morning. Security forces, which consisted of municipal police, South African Police, and members of the SADF, moved in and they demolished these shacks. Now, during the demolishing the squatters themselves and the gangs of youths were involved in confrontation with the security forces, and as a result tearsmoke was fired while firebombs were thrown at the security forces.

[Borja] Are there reports of any casualties?

[Mazwai] Right now we have not had any reports of casualties. The problem is that whenever any of the people get injured they seldom go to the hospital, because when they go to the hospital they get detained. So, we normally get reports of casualties about a day later.

[Borja] Have things pretty much quietened down now?

[Mazwai] Well, there has been some heavy rain in the area. So, that has sort of dampened the conflict.

[Borja] So, how much of Mshenguville has been destroyed?

[Mazwai] Well 100 shacks have been demolished, and this would be six people to a shack. It would mean that about 750 people are homeless right now. [numbers as heard]

[Borja] Why are the authorities destroying Mshenguville? What do they intend will take its place?

[Mazwai] These people have just been demolished, and they have been given no other place to go to. I believe that it is most insensitive of the authorities to demolish shacks and not give people alternate accomodation, because some of these people have been on the waiting list for houses for the past 10 years.

[Borja] What kind of place is Mshenguville? What kind of people are staying there?

[Mazwai] It is a shantytown and is right in the middle of Soweto. It sprouted up early this year when the mayor allowed people to build shacks on land that belongs to him. Later on people came in droves, and they spread onto the adjoining golf course, which is city council ground. Right now there are about 2,000 shacks in the area. It is Johannesburg's version of Crossroads, and the town council, the Soweto Town Council put a halt to these shacks. But last weekend more people came, and the shacks that have been demolished are the people who came in from last week. [end recording]

Information Bureau Issues Unrest Report

Nov 27 Unrest Report

MB270908 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0907 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Pretoria, Nov 27, SAPA — Herewith the Bureau for Information's unrest report for the period 6 am yesterday to 6 am today.

"In Mofolo (Soweto) illegal squatter dwellings were yesterday demolished on instruction of the Soweto housing council. Black youths threw stones at the council members and also attacked the security forces with stones and petrol bombs.

The security forces dispersed the youths with tearsmoke. No injuries or arrests were reported.

"Other unrest related incidents reported during the above mentioned 24 hours once again comprised of isolated stone throwing and petrol bomb attacks causing little damage. No arrests were made and in one incident a black woman was slightly injured.

"In Guguletu two members of the SAP, who were on routine Patrol duty, were fired upon by unknown persons and when they dived for cover, a hand grenade was thrown at them. Both Capt P. Loock of the Guguletu detective squad, and Sgt H. Steenkamp of the Wingfield dog unit, were taken to hospital with multiple shrapnel wounds. Their conditions are stable. No arrests were made. Police investigations continue."

Nov 28 Unrest Report

MB281002 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0958 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] [No dateline as recieved] — The following is the Bureau for Information's unrest report for 0600 (27 Nov) to 0600 (28 Nov).

"In Dlamini 2 (Soweto), yesterday, a group of youths approached a house in search of another youth. After the mother of the youth informed them that her son was not at home, the group attacked the women and her home with stones, petrolbombs and a firearm.

"The house was totally demolished by fire and three women and one man received bullet wounds. No arrests were made.

"In a similar incident in another part of Dlamini 2 considerable damage was caused to another house. No one was injured in this incident and no arrests were made.

"At approximately 13H00 yesterday three youths, Jonathan Rambuda, 19, Solly Melewa, 12 and Roger Mariya, 8, who were fishing from the Tweeling bridge near the Fanie Botha Dam (Tzaneen), discovered an object, possibly a handgrenade, in the mud.

"One of them threw the object at the foot of the bridge where it exploded. Jonathan received multiple injuries and was admitted to the Letaba hospital. The other two received only slight injuries. Police investigations continue.

"Other reported unrest-related incidents comprised once again of isolated stone throwing and petrol bomb attacks on private and security force vehicles as well as private homes. No injuries were reported and only one black youth was arrested in connection with a stone throwing incident.

"A black man was arrested in connection with yesterday's handgrenade incident in KTC, Guguletu. The SAP confiscated a Russian-made firearm, magazines and ammunition."

The Bureau for Information has added the following to its daily unrest report:

"With reference to an incident on 15 November 1986 at Curry's Fountains, Durban, during which a member of the Metal and Allied Workers Union (MAWU) Mr M.S.J. Mchunu, was fatally wounded, a proper autopsy, as is legally required, was held.

"Evidence for a possible judicial enquiry is at present being gathered and will be submitted to the attorney general in accordance with standing procedures.

"All parties concerned who are in possession of relevant evidence, may contact Capt Van Rooyen of the Berea (Durban) detective branch of the SAP."

Press Comments on Current Problems, Issues

26 Nov Press Review

MB260714 [Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN on Barclays Bank Withdrawal

Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 25 November says in its page 6 editorial that it "won't cheer from the rooftops" because Barclays Bank is withdrawing from South Africa since it prefers "companies that have been in South Africa for decades to continue their links." However, "there is no moral justification for Barclays pulling out" since "deprived of access to new loans, South Africans will find it increasingly difficult to stimulate economic growth to provide employment for its evergrowing Black population. Disinvestment on a scale being perpetrated by Barclays is just as bad, as it will encourage other withdrawals. On balance, however, we believe that South Africa's major financial institutions should be in South African hands and the fact that Barclays National will be purely South African will be a good thing in the long run."

THE STAR on Barclays Bank Withdrawal

"Barclays UK's withdrawal from South Africa may be the biggest single disinvestment blow delivered to date. But it is not one that is going to materially damage the financial sector of the economy," says a page 12 editorial in Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 25 November. "Of more concern than the perceived earthquake effect is the growing realisation that the resources of South Africa's financial institutions are finite." *The Star* says the day must eventually dawn "when the wherewithal to buy out the disinvestors is simply not forthcoming." "Hopefully, Pretoria will engender the foreign confidence needed to keep overseas companies here by getting on with the economic and political reforms so desperately needed to convince the multinationals that South Africa's future will be characterised by a buoyant economy and racial and social harmony."

BUSINESS DAY on Barclays Bank Withdrawal

A page 8 editorial in Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 25 November says the Barclays Bank decision to withdraw from South Africa and "Pretoria's right turn on reform of the Group Areas Act" are "part of the greater malaise of this nation. And now, with a white election pending, the true cause of that malaise is increasingly being camouflaged behind a flurry of propaganda. The National Party is not and never has been a reformist party. Rather, it is a dinosaur. It has been shown to be incapable of making the changes that will lead this nation from the brink." *Business Day* says even though the "sanctioneers are morally wrong, in that by their departure they are deserting the people whose interests they claim to have at heart," South Africans "should not be deflected from the truth." South Africans should seek "the real reasons why our currency has collapsed, why our economy has slumped, why the multinationals are deserting us, and why our country is wracked by domestic torment. Every road leads to the divisive and recalcitrant policies of Pretoria."

Foreign Press Blamed for Poor RSA Image

"One must surely marvel at the Nationalist government's capacity for self-delusion and self-deception," says Joel Mervis on the same page. "Although the Nationlists have allegedly changed, their delusions and the self-deception still lingers on." Mervis refers to Deputy Minister of Information Stoffel van der Merwe's claim that "the inability of the foreign press to read and understand Afrikaans was largely responsible for SA's poor image abroad." "From all sides government is exhorted to introduce meaningful, realistic reform. These exhortations are largely ignored. The reforms lack thrust, and are halfbaked and unconvincing. But as one will readily appreciate, government does not regard itself as being to blame for the crises at home and the inflamed hostility abroad. If government is not to blame, then who is? The New Deputy Minister of Information has the answer. The blame rests squarely on the Foreign Press who cannot read Afrikaans. Only when they learn to do so, one gathers, will our image improve."

CAPE TIMES Supports PFP as Alternative Government

"The middle of the roaders remain clearly in control of the party's direction, but it is good to know that the PFP, through its committed youth formations and monitoring groups, is well informed about the turmoil in the townships and is in touch with black opinion," says a page 12 editorial in Johannesburg *Cape Times* in English on 24 November. "As the group areas fiasco again shows, the Botha government is manifestly unwilling to undertake the reform measures which will be needed to build a climate for negotiation. As President Botha drifts, the PFP should grasp this opportunity to build support to become the core of a broad-based alternative government, bringing together South Africans in all sections who are opposed to nationalist extremism."

CAPE TIMES: PFP Aims at Alternative Government

On page 12 of *Cape Times* political correspondent Anthony Johnson says: "The Progressive Federal Party's federal congress at the weekend proved to be a poignant illustration of the dilemmas facing any conventional parliamentary political party aggressively seeking both white electoral support and credibility among extra-parliamentary groups in a rapidly polarising South Africa." "The official PFP strategy, as spelt out by several speakers, is first to gain control of the white House of Assembly, and then to call a national convention to which all political groupings will be invited to thrash out a new constitution. The immediate goal is to be by 1990 'a significant and effective part of an alternative, non-racial, democratic government in a post-apartheid South Africa.' " Johnson points out that "about 40 percent of white voters and 59 percent of blacks support the basic principles of the PFP. But less than 20 percent currently vote for the PFP."

SOWETAN on Venda Regime

"The detention and harassment of well-known Northern Transvaal cleric, Dean Tshenuwani Simon Farisani, is a chilling reminder that the Venda government has not stopped its grotesque jackboot tactics of repression," says the page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 25 November. The paper says the government of Venda is "applying the ruthless methods of repression learned from South Africa," and it is "just an arm of the repressive system in South Africa." "Fortunately, such intolerable regimes do not last forever."

'Focus' on Rent Boycott

Themba Molefe says in the "Focus" column on the same page that "as the rent boycott spreads to more townships around the country, the authorities resort to stringent methods to break it." Meanwhile, lawyers are questioning the legality of action taken by local authorities against boycotting residents and a Johannesburg attorney says "the courts will also rule on whether it is legal that residents should pay rent." "The Lekoa Town Council, which earlier during the boycott got employees to deduct rent money by stop order from workers' pay, was stopped by court action."

DIE TRANSVALER: PFP Seeks White, Black Support

A page 14 editorial in Pretoria *Die Transvaler* in Afrikaans on 24 November says that at its federal congress at the weekend the PFP came to the conclusion "that even an opposition party cannot always be everything to everyone. On the one hand there can be no promise of protection of minority rights — in the case of whites — and on the other hand total democracy to gain black support." *Die Transvaler* believes that the fact that the PFP ordered a constitutional commission to investigate this discordance is "only a trick to avoid the matter — possibly until the following elections."

VADERLAND: RSA, Neighbor Tension Increases

"Tension between South Africa and some of its neighboring states is increasing," says a page 18 editorial in Johannesburg *Die Vaderland* in Afrikaans on 25 November. "It has obviously reached a dangerous level. Unless it is not defused, further unpleasant episodes between neighboring state relations await." *Die Vaderland* believes that "matches are recklessly being struck in dry grass. Botswana even claims that South Africa wants to invade it. Notwithstanding the fact that South Africa is provoked by terrorism coming from Botswana committed in South Africa." The paper points out that South Africa has invited Botswana to question an arrested terrorist in this connection. "Botswana's reaction will indicate whether, like South Africa, it wants to defuse the situation and create peace in the region; or whether like some other countries, it is only interested in fanning the flames."

BEELD on Barclays Bank Withdrawal

A page 10 editorial in Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 25 November comments on the withdrawal of Barclays Bank UK's decision to dissociate itself from its South African interests saying "the danger exists that Barclays UK — without intending it — like the piper from Hamlin will lure smaller British investors to follow it." However, "positive points are that the capital structure of the bank will be strengthened and about R30 million which is yearly sent out of the country in the form of dividends, will in the future remain in South Africa. Previous setbacks have been converted into long-term benefits. This politically inspired transaction will be no exception. The mother bank's loss is South Africa's gain."

27 November Press Review

MB270807 [Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN on Group Areas, Local Option

Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 26 November comments in its page 6 editorial on the "constitutional crisis resulting from the six-month delay over the President's Council report on Group Areas." The paper says the Group Areas Act is "falling into disuse" in the grey area cities "while remaining in the Statute Book. This makes a mockery of the law — and when a law is ignored, the whole legal system is undermined. It would be better, therefore, if the position were regularised by the creation of legally acceptable mixed areas or by giving local authorities the option to allow mixing if they so wish." "At some future date, the Group Areas Act will be repealed, but we understand the government's refusal to do this in one bold move. It does, after all, have to maintain its constituency and it does have to ensure that it remains in power."

THE STAR: Government Sanctions Forced Removals

On page 10 of Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 26 November Alan Morris, field worker with the Transvaal Rural Action

Committee of the Black Sash, comments on the forced removal of Oukasie township residents. He points out that Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning Chris Heunis has stated in the government Gazette that "the land is no longer defined and set apart as a town." This is an "officially sanctioned and legislated forced removal." Morris believes that "the real reason for the disestablishment is that the township is too close to the white group area. The disestablishment is a desperate attempt by the Government to appease the ultra-right and retain this very marginal seat." If the removal of Oukasie goes ahead it will be "another tragic chapter in the history of apartheid," and "will reinforce the contention that the Government's talk of reform is a complete sham."

BUSINESS DAY Urges NP To Reassure Conservatives

"The auguries for next year's white election are not good for South Africa," says a page 10 editorial in Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 26 November. "The National Party always turns right at election time, and this poll is going to be no different, whether it is a full election or only a string of by-elections. But, more than in previous polls, it is SA's future wellbeing which is at stake, not just that of the NP. President Botha makes much of the motto 'SA first', by which he means that what is good for the NP is good for SA." *Business Day* believes that "a brave patriot would take on the right wing with a bold reformist charter and a string of genuinely reformist laws in the pre-election session. Instead of unconvincing assurances to the right, the NP should spell out to doubting conservatives why far-reaching reforms are necessary. If that means a loss of seats, so be it. There will be compensating gains, both for the NP in votes elsewhere, and for SA's domestic and international prospects. If Botha will not put SA first, the NP — or the country — should turn to someone else who will."

CAPE TIMES on Barclays Bank (UK) Withdrawal

A page 14 editorial in Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 25 November says: "Yesterday's decision by Barclays Bank PLC [public limited company](UK) to quit South Africa is the saddest chapter so far in the worsening tale of woe on the disinvestment front. The exit is not only the biggest to date at some R500m, but it illustrates more powerfully than ever that traditional financial considerations are becoming increasingly irrelevant when it comes to international business decisions relating to this country." *Cape Times* says "Barclays' pullout represents a dramatic acceleration to panic level of an exodus that knows neither rhyme nor reason on economic grounds. Even the Anglo American-led consortium which has probably gained a considerable bargain must regard its success as pyrrhic indeed. That is how it goes with sanctions and disinvestment. Nobody really wins, and the country — its workers and the economy, that is — certainly loses."

SOWETAN: Education System for All Races

"While ordinary people are convinced that the pressure on South Africa will only be reversed if courageous changes are made, the Government is still too timid, frightened and xenophobic to launch vigorous structural changes," says the page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 26 November. The paper welcomes the proposal by the white teachers' organization, the South African Teachers' Association, that state schools be opened to children of all race groups. "What would be ideal is a Government commitment to institute one education system for all children. In that way most problems would be solved."

BEELD: Rector To Mediate for Moderates

A page 10 editorial in Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 26 November says that rector of the Rand Afrikaans University, Professor Pieter de Lange's, "decision to leave the academic life and become a bridge builder for moderates is imaginative. He exchanges security for insecurity — but South Africa needs this sort of pluck. If whites want to assure themselves a secure future together with other population groups, they will have to move out and try out new approaches." *Beeld* wishes De Lange success because it also believes in "negotiation, contact and moderation as direction indicators." *Beeld* says that if Lange remains "neutral and creative he can play a dynamic role in a troubled country which searches for hope."

NHK To Abolish Color Clause

A second editorial on the same page says that as long as the ultraconservative branch of the Dutch Reformed Church, the Nederduitsch Hervormede Kerk (NHK), "clings to its Article III which determines that only whites can be members of the church, it helps little to call on church boards to arrange matters in such a way that no one will be injured." *Beeld* believes that people "will be offended" if the church does not "strip membership and church attendance of its color substructure." The paper says that to do away with the color clause should be easier for this church than it is for the Dutch Reformed Church (NGK) because "its decision was not based on biblical or theological grounds but purely on practical and political considerations."

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Press Conference Covers Economy, RSA Threats

MB271920 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Excerpts] The president, Comrade Kaunda, today expressed concern at the continued decline in the value of the kwacha and announced that contacts were being made with creditor countries and international organizations to find ways of strengthening the currency. Addressing a press conference at State House tHis morning the president explained that the value of the kwacha was declining continuously because only funds earned by Zambian exports was being made available for auctioning. Referring to the effects of the depreciation of the kwacha in the cost of living, Comrade Kaunda pointed out that the auction system was the best under the country's economic [words indistinct] and urged Zambians to understand why they were undergoing difficulties of economic adjustment. [passage omitted]

Turning to security he urged Zambians to take the threats from South African Defence Minister Magnus Malan very seriously and to remain vigilant in the defense of the country. Comrade Kaunda said that the situation in the region is very grave, and when a country like South Africa issues threats they must be taken seriously.

The president also took a spike at easygoing Zambians who are trying to mislead the masses into thinking that Zambia has taken a wrong stand on the southern African situation. Comrade

Kaunda said any person who says Zambia is a hoax because of her stand on South Africa is ignorant because the country's policies have always been to support peace. Comrade Kaunda reiterated that if Pik Botha comes to Zambia with the objective of discussing the dismantling of apartheid, the lifting of the state of emergency, the lifting of the ban on the African National Congress and other political parties in that country, releasing Nelson Mandela and others, as well as holding dialogue with the oppressed people, then he will be welcomed.

In the light (?of the series) of events that have taken place in the struggle for independence of Angola, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe, Comrade Kaunda appealed to the Western governments to recognize the forgiving nature of Africans, who only want peace but cannot have it with apartheid in South Africa.

Kaunda: RSA Considering Raid

MB280553 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0500 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Zambia and Zimbabwe have agreed in principle to cut air links with South Africa, but the two Frontline States have still to announce when they will take the step. Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda says the Frontline States' proposed sanctions agaisnt South Africa will only be effective if they are backed by South Africa's major trading partners.

President Kaunda also says his government has learned from white South Africans being held captive in Zambia that Pretoria is contemplating another raid on his country. President Kaunda has given no further details of the alleged plan.

EEC Delegate Promises 'Concrete' Economic Aid

MB271643 Dakar PANA in English 1630 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Lusaka, 27 Nov (ZANA/PANA) — Zambia's President Kenneth Kaunda yesterday appealed for more assistance form the European Economic Community, other donor countries and organisations to enable Zambia carry through its structural adjustments programmes designed to prop up the economy. Kaunda said Zambia had already taken very tough measures which deserve the sympathy of the EEC and other donor agencies. He was speaking at State House last night when the new EEC delegate to Zambia Mr Jean-Machel Filori called on him.

He told Mr Filori in the presence of Zambia's Prime Minister Kebby Musokotwane and Zambia's Minister of Finance Basil Kabwe that it was true that some mistakes have been made, both at the Ministry of Finance and National Commission for Development Planning and at the Bank of Zambia but assured the EEC delegate that every possible measure was being done to correct the mistakes.

Dr Kaunda said Zambia had always been aware that her future lay in agriculture but attributed lack of advances in this field to earlier policies which placed emphasis on subsidies for consumer goods other than on production. He admitted that presently the economy had moved form bad to worse forcing the government to take tough measures to save the country from collapse. He added that the EEC has been a very good partners in Zambia's development efforts and hoped this would continue.

Mr Filori said the EEC was sympathetic to Zambia's economic problems and would do all it could to assist in the measures to improve the economy. He said the EEC headquarters in Brussels has been following with interest and great admiration the economic reforms that Zambia had taken to improve her economy. Filori said the EEC will not stand by and watch Zambia grapple with its problems but will give concrete assistance especially in the mining field to assist the reorganisation exercise and in the restructuring of the agricultural sector. The EEC is pumping in over 18 million U.S. dollars in the reorganisation of the mines.

ZIMBABWE

Minister Criticizes RSA Handling of Machel Crash

MB261440 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1246 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] Harare Nov 26 SAPA — South Africa's handling of injured and dead victims of the crash that killed President Samora Machel was "a shame for civilised people", a senior Zimbabwean Government minister said here today.

The minister of information, posts and telecommunications, Dr Nathan Shamuyarira, told an anti-apartheid meeting that documents were taken from the pockets of the dead, luggage confiscated and searched in Pretoria and documents were copied before they were handed back to the Mozambican authorities.

ZIANA, the semi-official news agency, quoted Dr Shamuyarira as saying: "I do not want to pre-empt the findings of the commission of inquiry, but the circumstances surrounding the crash of that plane are such that they point a finger at the apartheid regime."

Dr Shamuyarira was addressing delegates at a three-day international Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) meeting on apartheid.

Documents taken from the wreckage, one of which had been released, were being used by Pretoria to create conflict between Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe, he said. "They have more documents which they hope to release from time to time to cause conflict via propaganda."

Zimbabwe had assured Malawi that "we have no bad intentions toward them and want to solve problems through dialogue". Dr Shamuyarira said there were difficulties in relations with Malawi, but they were not serious and could be overcome by dialogue "and need not be taken up by conflict".

"Similar discussions were being held with Zaire. This is very important to the assistance we must give to our struggling brothers in South Africa.

"The major difficulties with South Africa can only be resolved by the struggle that is taking place. Our fighting with South Africa is to supplement the struggle through economic sanctions and assistance to the liberation movements," Dr Shamuyarira said. As was the case in the struggle against Rhodesia, the political objective of sanctions had to be dismantling of apartheid. A "serious sanctions programme" was on the agenda and would be followed "with strength and vigour". I would "hit the South Africans more," Dr Shamuyarira said.

"We have called on the support of our people to tighten belts as we enter a period of sanctions against South Africa. It is a continuing struggle and the beginning of a long struggle to final liberation and independence. Economic sanctions alone will not bring down the South African regime. Economic action, political organisation and mass struggle will put pressure on the system, leading to its breakdown and national independence," said the minister.

The chairman of political and administrative studies at the University of Zimbabwe, Dr Rukudzo Murapa, said Zimbabwe was playing a leading role in establishing the Beira Corridor as an alternative transport route to the sea and in protecting the Beira-Mutare railway and road.

"South Africa's destablisation activities have led Zimbabwe and other Frontline countries to rise up to the challenge and reach new levels of vigilance and creativity," Dr Murapa said. He said South Africa was "continuing to spread disinformation." He referred to statements by South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, that the crew of President Machel's plane was unprofessional, that the pilot had been drinking and that the plane was not airworthy. "Clearly these statements were deliberately aimed at detracting the world's attention from the role that regime may have played in the disaster," said Dr Shamuyarira.

Implies RSA To Blame

MB261815 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] The minister of information, posts, and telecommunications, Comrade Nathan Shamuyarira, told an anti-aparthied meeting in Harare today that some documents were taken from the dead, their luggage was searched, and some documents copied before being handed over to the Mozambican authorities. Comrade Shamuyarira said, although the commission of inquiry into the causes of the plane crash has not yet come up with a conclusion, the circumstances surrounding the crash point a finger at the apartheid regime of South Africa.

He said the documents taken from the wreckage were being used by South Africa to create conflict between Malawi and Zimbabwe, on one hand, and Mozambique and Zimbabwe on the other.

Comrade Shamuyarira also said Zimbabwe's position regarding South Africa was to supplement the armed struggle through economic sanctions and assistance to liberation movements.

Minister Dismisses Claims of Plot Against Malawi

MB261152 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] The minister of information, posts, and telecommunications, Comrade Nathan Shamuyarira, has praised the oppressed black majority in South Africa for their increased resistance to apartheid. Addressing a 4-day conference in Harare on apartheid, Comrade Shamuyarira stressed the need for an extensive mobilization campaign throughout the world to boost the anti-apartheid campaign. He expressed satisfaction with the sanctions onslaught against the Botha administration, adding that the struggle against apartheid must be waged from the political, diplomatic, and military fronts.

Comrade Shamuyarira dismissed allegations by the South African regime that Zimbabwe and the other Frontline States are plotting to overthrow the Malawian Government. He said differences between Zimbabwe and Malawi will be resolved through negotiation.

CPSU Delegation Meets With Prime Minister

MB261150 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has called for a strong alliance between ZANU-PF and the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. Comrade Mugabe made the call when he received the Soviet delegation which paid a courtesy call on him at his office at Munhumutapa Building today. He said Zimbabwe will benefit from the Soviet Union in establishing a socialist state, adding that the proposed alliance will also enable government-to-government relations to prosper. The delegation of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union presented Comrade Mugabe with a complete set of the first works of Lenin.

CPSU Delegation Meets Bulawayo ZANU Leaders

MB271624 Dakar PANA in English 1542 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Bulawayo, 27 Nov (ZIANA/PANA) — The visiting delegation of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union held discussions with ZANU (PF) leaders in Bulawayo this morning. The discussions which centered on cooperation in development projects were attended by the provincial chairman of the party, Callistus Ndlovu, provincial Governor Jacob Mudenda and other senior party officials. ZANU (PF) deputy secretary for commissariat and culture, Nelson Mawema, said the visitors would tour a number of youth and municipality projects.

Foreign Minister Leaves for Zambian Talks

MB271939 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Witness Mangwende, left Harare this morning for Lusaka, Zambia, where he will hold talks with senior government officials. The talks are expected to focus on a number of international issues.